IHENDEPENDENT

SPORT SECTION

12 PAGES FEATURING THE BEST OF THE WEEKEND'S ACTION



Cannibal warriors feast on bodies of their victims

MUSLIM SETTLERS were be- BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY headed and eaten yesterday in in Sambas, Borneo the latest round of a savage ethnic war on the island of Borneo. the past week, and two men were murdered and dismembered yesterday morning during an attack on the north-western village of Suka Ramai, near Sambas.

THE INDIPENDENT Catherine 30 March 1999

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and the back

At least 73 people have died in a severed ear and a human arm and offered me lumps of hearts and livers torn from the bodies of ethnic Madurese, who have become the target of a largescale ethnic purge. One man displayed and then ate a piece Warriors carrying spears, of cooked flesh, which he

body of a murdered man.

The killings have taken place rifles and machetes displayed in the remote Indonesian province of West Kalimantan, close to the border with Malaysia. Almost all of those who have died have been settlers from the island of Madura, east of the main Indonesian population centre, Java. For decades, land disputes

claimed to have cut from the and cultural differences have caused simmering tension between the Madurese and the other inhabitants of Borneo principally ethnic Malays and the indigenous Dayak tribespeople. In February, they boiled over after a dispute about a bus fare and since then some 13,000 Madurese have fled or been evacuated to refugee camps in the regional capital, Pontianak.

Small numbers still remain in the Sambas area where they are being hunted down by Malays and Dayaks. More than 1,000 warriors, wearing headbands and carrying machetes, spears and guns, attacked Suka Ramai early yesterday morning, killing or driving out the remaining Madurese

Those who escaped were pursued into the jungle from in the village, their houses were of the situation. On the drive b

Hundreds of smouldering buildings now line the road between Sambas and the nearest significant town, Sinkawang. Malays and Dayaks have set up dozens of road-blocks at which they check cars for Madurese passengers. The small contingent of police and soldiers in the

where shots were heard. Back area has completely lost control Dayak, Chinese or Bugi - all are welcome here. We just don't want Madurese. All of the On the drive back from Sam-

has to Sinkawang, a group of Madurese must leave. men at a road-block openly Since the Asian economic displayed a severed head with crisis and the fall of President a cigarette stuck up a nostril. Subarto last May, there have "We don't care about your been outbreaks of violent unrest race," said one man, brundishthroughout Indonesia, the ing a severed ear. "We don't world's fourth most populous care about your religion. Chris- country:

Smiling killers, page 12

Serbs face the final countdown

By STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels AND MARY DEJEVSKY in Washington

RICHARD HOLBROOKE, the United States special envoy, will today deliver a face to face warning to President Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia that air strikes against his forces are imminent, after Nato accelerated preparations for a massive bombardment of Serb nilitary positions in Kosovo.

News of the mission came amid escalating violence in Kosovo itself and a warning from Nato that it has cut the time it needs to unleash air strikes from two days to just a

In Pristina, the Kosovo capital, four Serb policemen were shot dead after the patrol cars in which they were driving were ambushed. Ethnic Albanians living in the area said they saw four bullet-riddled police cars being driven back from the Grmija district, east of the city centre, followed by two ambulances with lights flashing. A few minutes later, six armoured personnel carriers, carrying masked Serbian police with automatic weapons, were seen travelling at high speed in the reverse direction. Elsewhere in the province, thousands of ethnic Albanians fled their homes as fears grew of a new Serb of-

Mr Holbrooke will today fly to Belgrade via Brussels where he will meet Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and his French counterpart, Hubert Vedrine, to discuss the message to be delivered to Belgrade.

The rhetoric from Washington was stepped up yesterday as the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, told Mr Milosevic that he faces a stark gency meeting of presidential

Serbs drive out

page11 Leading article Review, page 3

Robert Fisk Review, page 5

choice: to halt aggression against the Kosovar Albanians and accept an interim settlement with a Nato-led implementation force or bear the full responsibility of Nato military

action". The Prime Minister's office said Tony Blair had spoken to President Bill Clinton and the two had agreed the Kosovo situation was becoming increasingly serious. Both expressed frustration that peace efforts were being obstructed. "They were growing more and more troubled by what was happening on the ground," a spokeswoman said.

Mr Cook warned that Nato's threat of military intervention was "for real", and the Foreign Office said Mr Holbrooke would insist that Mr Milosevic "complies with his undertakings". However, Germany's For-

eign Minister, Joschka Fischer, highlighted reservations among some European nations by striking a more balanced tone, arguing that the West needs "to use every opportunity" to achieve "a peaceful solution and avoid a confrontation". But he added: "At the moment it seems Belgrade is determined to risk that con-

Mr Holbrooke's last-ditch mission was agreed at an emer-

advisers in Washington yesterday after a discussion of the latest Serb offensive. It followed frantic diplomatic efforts to ensure that a Western delegation would be received in Belgrade, and not "snubbed".

Nato is determined not to give the impression that Mr Milosevic has another breathing space. The time necessary for allied aircraft to strike after receiving the order to do so has been reduced from 48 hours to "a matter of just a few hours", an official said yesterday.

In Washington, Sandy Berger, the National Security Adviser, said the Holbrooke visit was a message to Mr Milosevic. "one final time to make clear to him that he faces a very stark choice". And he added: "He can move to the path of peace or he can take this punishment "

Like other US officials he declined to discuss a timetable for bombing, arguing that that would not be "appropriate" but there do appear to be reasons for the White House to hold back. Not only is there opposition in Congress to US embroilment in the Balkans, but Yevgeni Primakov, the Russian Prime Minister, is due to visit Washington tomorrow and Wednesday

Although billed as a routine meeting, it is considerably more important. The US wishes to build its relations with Mr Primakov to encourage Russian ratification of a pending arms control agreement, and to formulate terms for Moscow's involvement in Nato's 50th anniversary celebrations. With Russia emotionally and diplomatically protective of Serbia. it would be exceptionally diffi-cult for Mr Clinton to order bombing during the Russian premier's visit.



Record men fall to earth with a bump

Piccard, was "absolutely wonderful". Despite a wait of more than seven hours outside the Egyptian western desert town of Mut, he and his co-pilot, Brian Jones, were euphoric.

tian, Muslim, Buddhist, Malay,

They had, after all, become the first men to fly non-stop around the world in a balloon

Piccard, stubble showing on his slightly sunburnt face, fought back tears as he spoke. "It is a big pleasure to have landed in Egypt. My wife was born in Egypt." Jones, with typical British sang-froid. immediately asked about his wife, who had stayed in Geneva to help the ground team, and then said he would like to "have a glass of orange fuice".

bright silver and as tall as a twenty-storey building, touched down yesterday morning at 5.52 GMT 60 miles north of the Dakhla Oasis, deep in Egypt's if there was an emergency. It's

Western Desert. Mr Jones, 51, from Wiltshire, said: "The eagle has landed." After 21 days and more than 29,000 miles you might have thought he'd had enough time pounds on a project costing a to think of something more original. At least his companion. a 41-year-old Swiss psychiatrist, felt excited enough to

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savings

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phone bill.

"EVERYTHING," SAID Bertrand BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE in Dakhla Oasis, Egypt

> jump up and down and wave his arms around wildly.

From the perspective of the balloon, the conditions were ideal - strong winds had helped to push them further east than expected and the flat desert floor presented few hidden dangers. For the pilots it was not so pleasant. When they touched down they must have thought that the worst was over. Instead the final 60 miles back to a semblance of civilisation was to be as difficult as anything they had faced since setting off from Switzerland on 1 March.

"As of last night we had two helicopters from the Egyptian The Breitling Orbiter 3. Air Force lined up to come and pick the men up," said Alan Noble, the expedition flight controller "For some reason they said they would only help a little sad that you get all around the world and then this." Mr Noble did not say why the local authorities should feel obliged to spend thousands of reported £6m, which had not benefited Egypt by one cent.

mankind? page 3

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Blair faces backlash over 'control freakery'

backlash this week from Labour activists who accuse him of "control freakery" in his running of the party.

elections to the committee.

Lorry traffic threat

Truck drivers threaten

over diesel tax rises

Erale Wise dies

to bring London to a halt

The great straight man

of comedy dies, aged 73

TONY BLAIR will be hit by a new BY ANDREW GRICE

"We regret the enormous The constituency party in damage which is currently Folkestone and Hythe said the the north-west Cambridgeshire

the selection and election processes in the European election, Wales, Scotland and London are so blatant that we

being done to the democratic introduction of "loyalty tests" credentials of our party", said rather than competence tests

was "not consistent" with Mr of this party for openness and fairness". Chingford and Woodford Green party claimed in its motion there were "serious deare in danger of making even ficiencies" in the running of last the Tories appear democratic." year's NEC elections. It al- for pro-Blair candidates in the

leged that a Blairite group of candidates. Members First, spent £100,000 on their campaign and that a senior Labour official intervened "in a partisan way" to support them.

Tomorrow the NEC will agree to bring forward this year's election to the party's ruling body to the summer.\ Traditionally, the results are announced during the annual conference in October and defeats

past two years have caused emharrassment to the leadership. The NEC will approve a new

code of conduct for internal party elections. It proposes any candidates worried about the running of the ballot should raise their concerns with party officials rather than go public. Anyone breaching what the left describes as a "gagging clause" could be disqualified.

Andrew Mackinlay, Review, Page 4

Blair's commitment to one-Labour Party. by-election looms after the Mr Blair's leadership will "The attempts to interfere or member-one-vote elections Labour MP, Fiona Jones, was predetermine the outcomes of "and will damage the reputation

Italy's banks in spin

Takeover bids turn the

upside-down

Business P13

M&S sell-off

Business P13

Italian banking industry.

Marks & Spencer to sell

and lease back stores

come under attack tomorrow when Labour's National Executive Committee (NEC) approves new measures to curb

sent by reforming the annual The allegations of growing central control will be heard as

INSIDE THIS SECTION

AND COLIN BROWN

the NEC prepares to suspend the party in Newark, where a found guilty of election fraud. Labour MPs are worried the

growing discontent at Mr Blair's "autocratic" style could harm the party's prospects at the local elections in May and European elections in June.

Land returned

the Kalahari

Foreign P10

Foreign P11

Chechen bombing

President Maskhadov

survives attempt on life

South Africa's bushmer

are handed back part of

INSIDE THE REVIEW Donald Macintyre A bug's life

Will Michael Portillo live up to his own challenge of "Who dares, wins"? Comment P3

Bored in the bedroom Children don't want to be gived to the TV Comment P4

Why children worry about the millennium computer bug Features P9

Dizzying heights A new exhibition that thinks size matters **Architecture P10** LETTERS 2, LEADERS & COMMENT 3-5, OBITUARIES 6-7. FEAT



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a gre

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, FAN JACK, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER, SUSANNAH FRANKEL, BREAN VINER. PHILIP HENSHER, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, DEBORAH ORR, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Talks offer to avert London lorry protest

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday offered to set up a high-level forum with lorry drivers in a last-minute bid to head off a demonstration that threatens to bring chaos to London today.

Hundreds of lorry drivers say they will bring traffic in the capital to a halt by driving slowly through the streets in protest at Budget increases in diesel duty and road tax. John Reid, the Transport

minister, said he would set up a special forum of Transport and Treasury ministers and hauliers' leaders. He meets the heads of the Freight Transport Association (FTA) and the Road Haulage Association (RHA) tomorrow.

Hauliers say the Budget will add millions of pounds to their running costs and force them to cut jobs. At least three firms representing 2 per cent of the industry are planning to register their fleets abroad unless the Government backs down.

But Mr Reid, speaking on GMTV's Sunday programme dismissed any possibility of "rewriting" or "unpicking" the Budget, adding: "We want to Transport Correspondent

haulage industry continues to

He warned hauliers not to take part in the demonstration. "If they chose to reject the industry forum and chose instead to disrupt the lives of millions of ordinary people who are paying their taxes, then I don't think they will get a resonance out there with the pub-

The FTA attacked the offer of a forum, accusing ministers of trying to placate hauliers rather than dealing with their concerns. "The problems that the transport industry is facing are here and now. While a forum may help us in the future we need short-term help because the fact is that jobs and companies are at risk," said spokesman Geoff Dossetter.

He warned the Government that the prospect of companies leaving this country to take advantage of lower diesel and road tax rates in Europe was "real fact, not just hype". Two of Britain's largest road that we can see that the considering registering all or

part of their fleets abroad to escape the swingeing hikes in duties. Wincanton Logistics and Tibbett & Britten have about 4,000 lorries and said the move - known as flagging out - could save £2m a year in Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) or road tax

Eddie Stobart, the UK's most famous lorry firm, has said it will register up to half its 800-strong fleet abroad. VED for 40-tonne lorries is just £338 in Luxembourg compared with the new British rate of £5,750 up from £3,210. On top of that, Wincanton said the Chancellor's decision to add 6p a litre on diesel duty would add £5m to its annual fuel costs.

Mr Dossetter said: "There cannot be a transport manager in the country worth his pay who is not investigating whether he should flag out." But environmental groups

said the duty increases would help cut pollution levels and encourage hauliers to use rail freight. Roger Higman, of Friends of the Earth, said: "Lorry traffic is a major cause of pollution. The Government



build a bridge to the future so haulage groups are seriously must be firm - the policy is that we can see that the considering registering all or working."

Brenda Blethyn (left) and Emily Watson drink champagne in Santa Monica, California before last night's Oscar ceremony. The British stars were nominated for Best Supporting Actress and Best Actress respectively AFP

thugs

A 13-YEAR-OLD boy was badly injured after being bludgeoned with baseball bats in a paramilitary-style attack in Northern Ireland yesterday.

He was one of the youngest people to suffer such an attack, and the incident came as politicians were desperately trying to establish some forward momentum over the impasse on IRA weapons

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said that the boy had suffered a broken arm, several broken fingers, cuts and multiple bruising after the attack in Newtownards, Co Down.

He was singled out from a group of friends by a number of masked men and beaten with baseball bats at an area known as The Quarry in the town's North Road. Last night he was reported to be in a "stable but shocked" condition in hospital. An RUC spokesman condemned what he called a "horrific attack".

As this latest attack was added to the toll of those maimed in Northern Ireland, politicians on both sides said that they were determined to find a way to push forward before the first anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement.

But there were more signs of the sheer enormity of the task. With the position of David Trimble, the First Minister. weakened by vociferous opposition by hardliners within his Ulster Unionist Party at a party meeting on Saturday, Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader, once more reiterated that he could not force the IRA to hand 🥌 over its weapons.

"If anyone thinks L or anybody else, can deliver for them what the British Army could not do and what the British Government could not do in 30 years," he said yesterday, "then ing for a continuation of what can, a Tory spokesman on | we have seen so far, tactical mahealth, in a speech to the Social | noeuvring by the Unionists and a veto being asserted."

Minister prescribes NHS self-help on the Internet

PATIENTS COULD be offered BY COLIN BROWN access to the Internet on the NHS to help to relieve the pressure on family doctors.

The Health minister John Denham will today tell a London health conference that he in libraries and high street There is demand for informapharmacies to help patients to tion about healthy living. We are

Chief Political Correspondent

talking about putting a medical dictionary on the Net and asknot talking about self-diagno-Ministers stressed that they sis," a Whitehall source said.

would not be asking patients to a limited list in response to the treat themselves. "We are not Crown Report, published last a limited list in response to the professions.

to other health professionals, including nurses.

Patients could be allowed for the first time to consult phar- ference: "The public is becom-

Community pharmacists macists and get prescriptions ing less willing to accept that to prescribe for the first time on protocols agreed with the

Mr Denham, more controweek, which recommended an versially, will urge the NHS to responsiveness of commercial expansion of carefully con- match the service to patients trolled prescribing beyond GPs that is offered to customers by many high street outlets including banks and hotels.

He is expected to tell the con-

could also be given the power on the spot, on strictly limited there must be a big gap between accessibility and responsiveness of public services and the accessibility and

> health service management demand for antibiotics. conference that he is not calling for the NHS to match private health clinics.

> > LIGHTING UP

HIGH TIDES

formation about health man- from taxpavers, other ways agement proved valuable in one trial where GPs provided data showing that the overuse of antibiotics was undermining their effectiveness.

But underlying the Government's drive to reduce the demands on GPs is the conviction

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES

RAIN OR SHINE...

OIL PRODUCTION off Aus-

tralia's west coast ground to a

halt yesterday as thousands of

oil workers were evacuated

Emergency services in

Western Australia said that

Coldest (day): Lerwick 5C (41F)

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must be found to meet the almost unlimited demand for health services. A radical Tory alternative encouraging the use of more pri-

Giving patients access to in- that with limited resources

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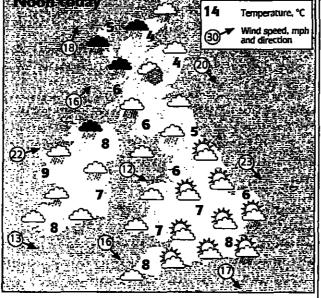
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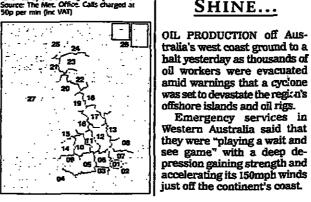
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See & NE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, N Isles: Bright fo largely cloudy, with heavy rain and hill fog this afternoon. A mo north-west wind backing southerly. Max temp 5-7C (41-45F).

Milder on Tuesday and much of England and Wales will brighten there will be drizzle in parts of the north-west and steadler rain Fain will not be the control of the contro

AIR QUALITY Today's readings WEATHERLINE



EUROPE NOON TODAY

THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

etrand Piccard

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BY JACK O'SULLIVAN

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flight, then space travel.

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plain a spurious prominence.

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THE WORLD

Agency of the control of the control

PLUS MEDIA, ARTS & VISUAL ARTS

har annurary side and Northern Ireland was He was one of the prosple to suffer an attack, and the modern As positionals were is trying to establish forward momentum impasse on IRA

lary and that the books. herer: a broken an s South toxal Latings repeated to be marge-

the journey will rightly be remembered as an extraordinary world first. These two Europeans have i limit, was to postrect gira da instantante longest aerial flight in history: Alexal Policy North 20 days. As Mr Branson, their most famous rival for this title, at Call Bent (1977) has said, 15 years ago the fur-经工业 医动物性心外检查 thest a hot-air balloon had travelled was 600 miles. So the flight is a remarkable technical development, reflecting progress in weather forecasting. satellite technology and the

design of balloons. The pilots also risked their quent in long-distance ballooning. Yes, the pair were backed by a considerable team, tracking their every move with the latest technology. But just as the film Apollo 13 makes clear about travel in the Seventies to the Moon, the resources available were

inadequate to the challenge. The pair spent their time in a capsule only 17ft long and less than 10ft wide, containing bunks, a kitchen area, a toilet

and a heater. At one stage the two men were in danger of carbon dioxide poisoning, at another, they encountered freezing conditions, requiring Piccard to climb out of the capsule and hack off three-feet long icicles. At the very end, there was great concern that they might



Tenzing Norgay pictured by Edmund Hillary in 1953, when they became the first men to conquer Everest

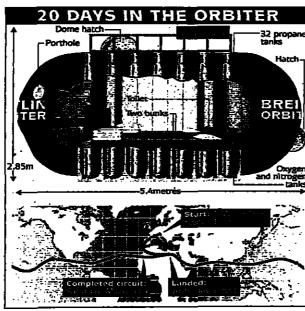
Yet a closer look shows that

All this puts them in the same league as, say, Captain Webb when in 1875 he was the established the record for the first to swim the Channel After all, endurance in the face of suffering is in itself enough to win a place in history: that is why Captain Scott is remembered even though he reached the South Pole after Roald

> Circling the world by balloon is also important for parochial, patriotic reasons: because a Briton was in the basket send-

ing out a message that Britain's buccaneering tradition survives. Similar significance was aftached to beating the fourminute mile in 1954, says the record breaker, Sir Roger Bannister. "We had won the war but seemed to have lost in every other way. That record showed the world we were still a force to be reckoned with."

That said, travelling around the world by balloon does not herald any wonderful technological breakthrough to benefit humankind. There will be none of the spin-offs springing from



going to the Moon or the first great aircraft journeys. In this sense, the achieve-

ment is not of historical significance. It recalls the experience of Richard Noble's team, whose Thrust supersonic car heat the sound barrier in October 1997. "I don't think we ever thought we would help anyone trying to cope with the M25," said Mr Noble yesterday. "But we still had more than 50 million people visiting our website following our progress.

We all need to be inspired and enlightened by such achievements. It encourages greater things.

Ironically, the weekend's success was interesting precisely because ballooning remains primitive. That also made this outmoded form of transport curiously contemporary. Instead of being about conquering nature in the style of an imperial age, this adventure was about harnessing the earth's forces in a more harmonious, Nineties manner.

Most people could also imagine that maybe it could have been them flying at 35,000ft above the earth in a tiny capsule, prey to the elements, sailing across a giant planet. After all Brian Jones was only a last-minute choice for the flight.

The goals of the adventure world audience. Such clarity, ap-



A great adventure, but does this rank

The world watched as Neil Armstrong became the first



Roger Bannister crossing the line in 1954 to become the first man to run the four-minute-mile

pealing to the public imagination, is now rare for explorers and adventurers.

Sir Ranulph Fiennes recalls with sadness his return in 1982 from successfully completing the first circumpolar navigation of the earth. He had trekked 130,000 miles from Greenwich, spent three years travelling and become, with his colleague, the first person to go to the South and North Poles in one trip. Yet, when he got back to Greenwich, his arrival was overshadowed by the return of soldiers from

Sir Ranulph's experience demonstrates how once the

success is recorded in a field, the public loses interest and acknowledgement comes only from aficionados. Thus, in 1975, Sir Chris Bonington led a brave and successful attempt on the steepest approach to Everest. But the adventure never had the huge appeal of the first ascent in 1963 when Sir Edmund Hillary famously "knocked the bastard off".

The same will now be true for ballooning. There will be more races, more dicing with

The Breitling Orbiter 3' after touching down near the

death, but the big race be-

tween Mr Branson, the Bre-

itling Orbiter III and others is

over. There may eventually be,

suggests Sir Ranulph Fiennes,

an attempt to follow his exam-

ple of a circumpolar journey.

But the only balloon journeys

which will again truly capture

public attention will be the solo

trips, like Reinhold Messner's

solo ascent of Everest in 1981,

unaided by oxygen.

oasis town of Mut in Egypt yesterday

THE EXPERT VERDICTS

minutes in 1954 "I see this wonderful success as achieved for glory but not as vainglorious, It is part of continual aspiring that characterises the human race and makes us different. from animals. We cannot see

something as possible and not do it. Sir Ranulph Flennes, first to circumnavigate the earth via the poles, 1982 "It was a worthwhile

endeavour and stands on its own two feet alongside the first ascent of Mount Everest, it is not something

Sir Chris Bonington, led expedition to Evere south-west face, 1975 "It is a wonderful

achievement. The difficulties

demonstrated by the number of failed attempts there have been. But each attempt learned from the previous one and thank: to forecasting, it became just possible to stand up to the wind and the elements

Richard Noble, leader of Thrust SSC team, which broke the sound barrier on land, 1997

"Invariably I find success in breaking records comes to small outfits of dedicated people like this one without a lot of money. Where a big involved, the people tend to be more conservative.

what about here on earth? The great adventures will be under the sea, predicts Sir Chris Bonington, while Richard Noble points to other frontiers. "There will be breaking the sound barrier on water, running the three-minute mile, reaching a 1,000 miles an hour on land and 500 miles an hour in a wheeldriven vehicle."

So there are still many challenges ahead, although few Are there, then, any great offer the romance of flying world firsts to be achieved after around the world by balloon in this weekend? Space travel is a quarter of the time even inevitably the final frontier. But Jules Verne dared imagine.



TWO RECORD-BREAKERS ... AND THE ONE LEFT BEHIND

Bertrand Piccard In becoming the first man to

circumnavigate the world in a hot-air balloon, the 41-yearold Swiss psychiatrist has added another world first to a family of record-

setters. His grandfather, Auguste Piccard, and his partner were the first to take a hot-air balloon into the stratosphere, rising to almost 10 miles in 1931. Auguste's twin brother, Jean-Felix, went to 11 miles three years later. In 1960 Bertrand's father, Jacques, took a submarine to the bottom of the Mariana Trench in the Pacific, at nearly seven miles the deepest point on the earth's surface.

Brian Jones He will go down in oioneering history,

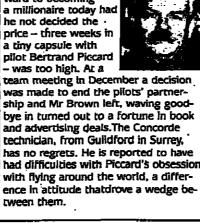
but had it not been for a reported personality clash between his co-pilot and Tony Brown - the man initially selected for the flight - the

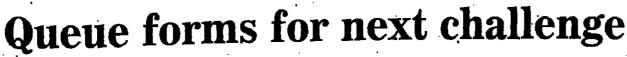
honour would have eluded him, Until December, the 51-year-old grandfather from Erlestoke, Wiltshire, had been designated as back-up pilot for the project and was second-in-command to the mission chief, Alan Noble. After learning to fly at the age of 16, Jones spent 13 years with the RAF. He developed a passion for ballooning in 1986, acquiring his licence and

Tony Brown have been looking for-

ward to becoming millionaire today had he not decided the . price - three weeks in a tiny capsule with pilot Bertrand Piccard - was too high. At a

was made to end the pilots' partnership and Mr Brown left, waving goodbye in turned out to a fortune in book and advertising deals. The Concorde technician, from Guildford in Surrey, has no regrets. He is reported to have had difficulties with Piccard's obsession with flying around the world, a difference in attitude thatdrove a wedge be-





becoming an instructor in 1989.

THE BRITISH have a long- BY CHARLES ARTHUR standing and unshakeable love affair with dangerous exploits, as witnessed by the success of the balloonists' record-breaking

trip around the world. Despite the fact that many have tried, and died, in attempts to brave the worst that nature can throw up, there is a constant stream of adventurers rushing to risk their lives.

Just as David Hempleman-Adams abandoned his attempt to complete a solo unassisted trek to the geomagnetic North

Pole, the mountaineer Alan Hinkes was packing his rucksacks to head for Nepal - where he aims to be the first Briton to climb all 14 mountains in the world over 8,000 metres.

Hempleman-Adams . returned to his base camp in Canada late on Thursday night, after being rescued by a plane from an ice shelf. The 42-yearold, from Box, near Bath, was just 10 days into his journey when the runners on the sledge

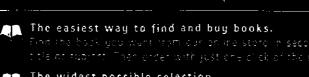
posed by high winds. "The next part of the trip was 70 miles across rough terrain, higher mountains, and I just figured that there would have been no way in hell would I have got that sledge through there without it

pected back in Britain today. For Hinkes, however, the challenge of climbing the Nepalese peaks of Annapurna, Dhaulagiri, Kangchenjunga and Makalu has yet to begin "Mountains are dangerous

were torn apart by rocks ex- places," he said yesterday. "I know that I mustn't get complacent, or I could get killed. These days, I am more aware of my mortality."

He has already climbed 10 of the world's highest mountains - including Everest and K2 falling apart," he said. He is ex- and if he succeeds in his mission he will join an exclusive world chib of just five people.

"It may have taken me 12 years to do it, and another Briton could then do it faster," he said yesterday. "But they can never be first, can they?



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ICI tops list of Britain's worst polluting companies

A "HALL of shame" of Britain's By LINUS GREGORIADIS dirtiest firms is published today by the Government's environment watchdog for England and Wales

The "league table" includes some of the UK's largest comnanies ICI Chemicals Shell UK and British Nuclear Fuels Limited (BNFL) feature in a long list of firms which were fined more than £2m in total last year for pollution offences

ICI tops the list largely be- now calling for much larger

cause of a £300,000 fine it incurred last March for polluting groundwater with almost 150 tonnes of chloroform in April 1997. The leak was discovered when a contractor spotted a 3fthigh fountain of the pollutant gushing from a broken filter in a pipe at the company's sprawl-

ing site in Runcorn, Cheshire. The Environment Agency is

Ed Gallagher, the agency's chief executive, said: "The average fine for a prosecution last year was £2,786. Clearly this is not sending out a strong enough message to deter large businesses that have the potential to seriously damage the environment."

Waste management and water companies take up five of the top six places. The Environ-

of two water companies in the top 10 reflected the high number of offences committed by the

water and sewage industries. ICI was also fined last year for the release of a metal-cleaning chemical which evaporated into the air and entered a nearby canal, and for a discharge at a site at Cleveland which sprayed across marshland and killed birds, fish and vegetation.

A spokesman said: "This is

penalties to be imposed by the ment Agency said the presence yesterday's news. It relates to courts to cut down pollution. of two water companies in the already well-publicised events already well-publicised events at three of our plants in 1997 where action to prevent recur-

rence has already been taken." He added: "In the last three years ICI has reduced by a third the environmental impact of its legally permitted emissions at its plants in the UK, which number more than 40 plants, at a cost of over £140m. The company is determined to continue this drive for improvement."

list, was fined £20,000 last year River Ribble in May 1997. A for polluting the Manchester Ship Canal with the equivalent of 10,500 household buckets of active materials. While not refined oil from the Stanlow Manufacturing Complex in Ellesmere Port. A spokesman

for Shell said that the compa-

ny regretted the incident and had taken measures to ensure it never happened again. BNFI, was also fined £20,000 last year following a discharge

Shell UK, joint eighth in the from a site in Preston into the charge ... did not involve radioexcusing our failure on that occasion there was no evidence the offences ... had any detri-

mental effect on aquatic life." The largest ever pollution fine in Britain was £1m, imposed on Shell UK after a massive oil pipeline leak polluted the Mersey Estuary in 1989.

Chemicals, £382,500; 2. Tyseley Waste Disposal Ltd, £95,500; 3 London Waste Ltd, £38,500; 4. Wessex Water Ltd, £36,500; 5. Alco Waste Management £30,000; 6. Anglian Water Services Ltd, £24,250; 7. EOM Co struction Ltd, £21,000; 8. Shell (UK) Ltd. £20,000; & BNFL £20,000; 10. Celtic Energy, £18,000; 10. European Vinyls Corporation Ltd, £18,000,

ourte

Heads attack tuition plan for top pupils

the Government of undermining inner-city schools after plans to offer bright children special tuition were revealed.

About 100,000 pupils from inner-city comprehensives will be offered master classes at nearby specialist colleges in subjects in which they excel. The aim is to keep middle-class pupils at inner-city schools as the gap between the best and worst schools widens and ambitious parents shop around

Proposals to be announced today by David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, will also help the slowest pupils. No details were available, but early leaks concentrated on the benefits for

the top 10 per cent. Earlier this year the Prime Minister infuriated teachers when he said that some innercity schools were so bad he did not blame parents for "making other arrangements" for children. He opted to send both his children to schools six miles from their Westminster home, at the London Oratory in Hammersmith and nearby Sacred Heart girls' school. He also backed Harriet Harman, who sent her son to St Olave's gram-

Yesterday John Dunford, eneral secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, said: "This is a vote of no confidence in inner-city schools, many of which are doing a superb job. . Teachers at these schools will go into work tomorrow feeling that the only way their bright kids can get a good education is by getting out of them. We need a package in inner-city schools for children of all abilities."

Mr Blair and Mr Blunkett see the scheme as part of their promise to "modernise" comprehensive education. About 450 schools will be involved in the three-year programme to divert £100m to schools in London, Birmingham, Merseyside, Manchester, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield and Rotherham.

Pupils will attend their local schools for most lessons, but will receive extra tuition in the growing network of schools specialising in science, technology, languages, the arts and sport.

Nigel de Gruchy, general sec-retary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: mar school in Bromley rather "If this hare-brained scheme is than the local comprehensive. designed to reassure the middle

perate middle-class parents can usually afford extra tuition. Their real concern is social. They don't want their children mixing with rough children in schools where bullying is rife."

Schools in the programme will have to name a teacher to co-ordinate it. Estelle Morris, the school standards minister, will be given an extra role as minister for inner-city education.

A national team of advisers will include Professor Tim Brighouse, who last week resigned as vice-chairman of the Goverument's standards task force after disputes with Chris Woodhead, Chief Inspector of Schools. Professor Brighouse told

BBC Radio 4's The World This Weekend that there had been a flight from inner cities in Britain and north America. "We've got to reverse that. The starting point must be to get behind the efforts of the staff in inner cities and introduce more education." He said he did not believe the

initiative would benefit only the 10 per cent of children "because I know the Government is totally committed to success for the many rather than the few. and that would be the few."



Leading article, Kevin Carlyon, a white witch, conducts a fertility ceremony with Eric and Sue Rae in the eye of the White Horse Review, page 3 on White Horse Hill, near Oxford

Elderly

AN ELDERLY farmer who died 📥 when he was attacked by a bull as he went to check for new-born lambs was yesterday described as having been a fit. man who "would have shown up someone half his age".

Brian Warren, 86, was killed by the animal at Hall Farm in the village of Fornham All Saints in Suffolk

The widower was attacked by the five-year-old Simmental in a field at his farm on Saturday night. Emergency services were prevented from helping him for half an hour until the bull was put down by a local gamekeeper. By the time doctors reached Mr Warren, who ran the farm with his son Martin, 36, he had died from his injuries.

His friend Sebastian White said that Mr Warren's death would be a sad loss to the community. "He was a great person to be with and had a great sense of humour. He was a very kind person who will be greatly missed," he said.

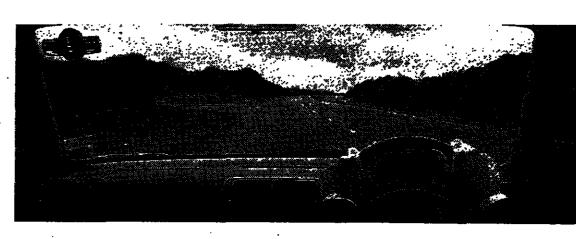
Mr White, 34, said that despite his age, Mr Warren was fighting-fit and still worked on the farm as normal. "He was a very fit man and would have shown up someone half his age," he said.

He was attacked by the bull as he went to check for newborn lambs at the start of the lambing season.

The Health and Safety Executive has been informed

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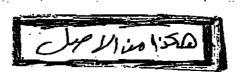
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Staff sue firms for 'excessive courtesy'

MORE AND MORE female em- By CHERRY NORTON ployees are suing for sexual harassment over incidents the defendants claim are merely examples of old fashioned courtesy. Disputes of this nature have doubled in the past three years, with nearly 20 such cases firm of employment lawyers. Companies often prefer to settle the matter privately to avoid

I "It's the death of common ourtesy," said Christopher Southam, a senior partner in Some people are misconstruing the most innocent of words and actions. Others are on their guard and are deliberately not using common courtesy in case they are misinterpreted."

In one case a 22-year-old female administrator, working in the transport industry in London, sued her company because a colleague kept sending her cards and flowers, saying she was doing a good job. She com-plained: "It was a daily pressure, I did not want to go into work."

When she made an allegation of sexual harassment the company, which did not have a troper sexual complaints procedure, chose to settle the case for £1,000 rather than contest it.

"Employers need to introduce appropriate policies to increase awareness of what sexual harassment is," said Mr Southam. "This will reduce the potential for crass, over-thetop activity as well as providing employers with a defence."

In a case last year, a 25-yearold accountant based in London complained to her personnel department about her "terribly nice boss". He kept giving her doing a good job. The woman found his actions reprehensible because he did not treat other at work can be both unpleasant trainees in the same way and he made her feel uncomfortable. She said: "He was thanking me all the time for doing a job I was being paid to do."

Her poss, a 45-year-old accountant who had worked for

Social Affairs Correspondent

was "mortified" when he was told of the complaint by personnel and stopped sending her chocolates. He claimed he was "just trying to be nice" and had a week, according to a leading no idea his actions had been misconstrued.

Even e-mails are not exempt from this legal minefield since employers can be held liable for those sent by their staff. "I am saddened by such attitudes. Everyone can benefit

the law firm Osborne Clarke. from a little more courtesy," said Gill Mackenzie, honorary secretary of the Campaign for Courtesy. "This country loses billions of pounds on stressrelated illness. One would have thought a little more courtesy would help." In Ms Mackenzie's view, provided there is no lavouritism or sexual overtures, courtesy at work should be encouraged, as happy employees are more efficient employees.

Even senior figures complain about the offensiveness of courtesy. A 29-year-old female hanker in the City kept finding flowers and bags of sweets on her desk from a 23-year-old male banker she was training. They were accompanied by cards, thanking her and telling her she was wonderful. The woman sued the company for sexual harassment and settled

for a confidential sum. The Equal Opportunities Commission disputes that attempts to be courteous often result in harassment complaints. It also believes few cases of sexual harassment are brought lightly or motivated by the possibility of financial reward.

"They are the last resort," said Jane Monkhouse, a commission specialist on sexual harassment. "Sexual harassment and damaging. It can be per-sistent verbal harassment, physical attack or just one event. Most large firms do have proper policies in place but many small companies do not see the need and this is when trouble



Morecambe and Wise in their heyday. They were partners in comedy for over 40 years

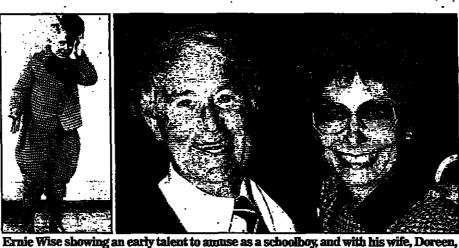
Ernie Wise, owner of legendary short, fat, hairy legs, dies at 73

By PAUL McCann Media Editor

ERNIE WISE, perhaps British comedy's greatest straight man, died of heart failure in hospital yesterday morning at the age of 73.

Wise, the second half of the hit comedy television show Morecambe and Wise, had been seriously ill since December when he suffered two heart attacks in one week. He had a triple heart bypass op-eration in Fort Lauderdale near his holiday home in Florida in January, and flew to Britain by air ambulance two weeks ago. He was in hospital near Slough, Berkshire, when complications from a chest infection and his operation

caused heart failure at 7am. His wife, Doreen, said: "He had recovered slightly and was well enough to come home from Florida. I phoned the hospital at 6.15 to check how he was and they said he was okay. Then they called back to say they were worried about his the BBC. "Ernie's role was condition. I went to the hospi-



to whom he was married for 46 years

tal, but he had already died." Leading figures from the entertainment world paid tribute to Wise's 40-year partnership with the man who called him "little Ern". "They both had an important part to play in their double act," said Bill Cotton, the former BBC1 con-

equally important. If Ernie had

been just as lost professionally as Ernie was without him." Eric Morecambe died of a heart attack in 1984. Yesterday, a Downing Street spokesman said: "The Prime Minister was very saddened to hear about this." Glenda Jackson MP who

was great fun: "We were always laughing during rehearsals and when filming. It wasn't that they were working at it, it was just that they were a joy to be

David Fisher

Des O'Connor, who for years was the butt of Eric and Eruie's jokes, said Wise had song and dance man ever was one of many stars who apgiven more to the act than was peared on the Morecambe and realised: "Eric was the wit. Wise show, said the double act

anchor If Eric got lost, it was Ernie pulling him back and righting the boat."

Wise, born Ernie Wiseman in Leeds, was just 16 when he teamed up with Morecambe. They first worked on television in the early Sixties in a half-hour ITV show. Once they moved to longer programmes on BBC1, they became Britain's most popular entertainers. They were at their peak in the Seventies, with their Christmas Day programme as big a tradition as the Queen's broadcast.

Wise always rejected the idea he was the lesser partner in the team. He once said: "I am not the stooge; a stooge does not say anything, just stands there with his face painted. I was the song and dance man.'

But with his "short, fat, hairy legs" and his willingness to have his fringe tugged - "you can't see the join, you know" -Ernie Wise gave more than a could. He gave Eric Morecambe's talent a target.

Obituary, Review, page 6

Heath attacks Hague on EU

By Fran Abrams Westminster Correspondent

WILLIAM HAGUE came under fresh fire from his own side last night as Sir Edward Heath accused him of talking "nonsense" over the EU Commission crisis.

Mr Heath, who took Britain into Europe, dismissed a suggestion by the Tory party leader that the commissioners should all have resigned last January. "All of that is absolute non-

sense." he said in a television interview. "We know he doesn't want the Commission, he doesn't want us to be in Europe and that's all being proclaimed pretty loudly."

Sir Edward said he would be "perfectly happy" if the pro-European Tory former cabinet minister Chris Patten and the outgoing Liberal Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown were Britain's next two nominees to

When it was pointed out that such appointments would leave supporters of Mr Hague's Eurosceptic line without a voice, the former Prime Minister replied: "It's a pretty small voice in any

case in the House of Commons. Sir Edward conceded that it might be hard for Mr Blair to nominate two non-Labour candidates, but added: "I have long suspected that he really wants to get a nomination from Mr Hague that he won't accept and then put Chris Patten in his place, if Chris wants it."

Last Tuesday Mr Hague told the Commons that while he agreed commissioners not directly implicated by the report should serve out their terms as an interim measure, there should be "a total clear-out of the existing Commission and an entirely new set of commissioners appointed". He also said it was time to change the structure that had led the Commission and the EU to try to do too much and interfere too often.

Sir Edward said last week's report on mismanagement of funds presented an opportunity to tackle the EU's weaksses. However, he added that for the former French Prime Minister Edith Cresson to have appointed her dentist and his son to Commission jobs was "not necessarily" corruption.

The former prime minister also warned Mr Blair over his comment that the crisis was an opportunity for Britain. "Mr Blair has to be very careful

Three die in fastest road car 'Church must welcome blacks'

THREE PEOPLE were killed BY DARIUS SANAI yesterday in a McLaren F1, the fastest and most expensive road car produced, when the car crashed into a tree and burst into flames on the brow of a hill in Essex.

Witnesses said that the fire in the car which costs 6627,000 ind has a top speed of 228mph, was so intense that they were unable to approach the inferno by the side of the A120, at an accident blackspot near the market town of Great

Dunmow. Police said that the driver of the metallic burgundy supercar was a local business. man. The other two victims were the female passengers.

The driver of the F1, a roadgoing offshoot of the Surreybased McLaren Formula One racing team, sits centrally at the front of the cabin, flanked by two passengers slightly behind him on either side.

The crash happened at next of kin.

about 2pm. Susan Mulford and her husband Leigh rushed from their home after hearing the crash. Mrs Mulford said: "We saw this great cloud of black smoke and then flames right across the road.

"It was fortunate that no other cars were following. No one could get anywhere near it. It was just smoke and flames." Police were withholding the

victims' names last night pending notification of their



The McLaren F1 has a top speed of 228mph

LEADING bishop said yes-By Maria Breslin terday that the Church of Eng land should be more welcoming ered a human rights talk as part of the 10th annual Peter Heery to its black congregation. The Right Rev James Jones, inlecture in the crypt of Liverpool's Catholic Metropolitan stalled as Bishop of Liverpool Cathedral of Christ the King. last year, denied, however, that

the Anglican Church was in-"I think the Church could be stitutionally racist. much more welcoming to black He said many Anglican impeople," he said. migrants arriving in Britain from the West Indies in the Fifties were not welcomed into

the Church. The comments

came as Bishop Jones deliv-

"The origins of the black-led churches in this country was because people coming to us, especially from the West Indies,

Church at the time. Although into the Church," Bishop Jones nobody admits to being racist. there are undercurrents in all our institutions that make black people and all people of ethnic

"The Church is not institutionally racist but there are subtle forces at work in every institution that keep some peo-

"On behalf of the Church of England I want to extend a wel-

come to people of every race

daughters was to be featured minorities feel they don't be-

alongside strippers and tabletop dancers in a BBC series to be shown in the run-up to

added.

Bishop Jones, a close friend of the veteran entertainer Cliff Richard, defended his decision, claiming he was in line with the

The bishop hit the headlines

last weekend when it was re-

vealed that the father-of-three

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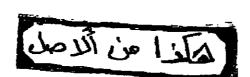
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Bells toll protest at football on Sabbath US and

THE CONSTANT tolling of a By JOHN DAVISON church bell mixed with the chants and shouts of a foother crowd in Birmingham, ,-seerday, as a vicar and his diminishing flock staged a protest against the encroachment of football on Sunday worship.

The Rev Keith Sinclair was angry about the rescheduling of Aston Villa's televised game against Chelsea to 11.30am yesterday, which he said would severely disrupt services at nearby churches, including his own Aston Parish Church.

With his congregation down to 30, less than half the normal attendance, his five bellringers kept the tenor bell tolling from 10am to 1pm. "... e not trying said. "This was because we to annoy ar, one, but we feel it were already committed to is about time football stopped steamrollering everything in its path," said Mr Sinclair. "When TV ratings are seen as more important than people's freedom to worship, we have a major problem.

The peals of protest were led by Don Finnemore, the master ringer, who agreed that it was time to take a stand. "One hundred years ago, Aston Villa

were a Methodist church team. They would never have dreamed of playing a match on

the day of worship," he said. A spokesman for Aston Villa said that the early start was not their fault. "We sympathise with the churchgoers, but the rescheduling was completely out of our hands. Sky are prefty much in control."

Vic Wakeling, managing director of Sky Sports, said: "The game was offered to Sky Sports and we informed the Premier League that we would be able to transmit it if the kickoff was at 12.30pm or 1pm," he were already committed to the Worthington Cup Final on the same day." The Premier League then told them that the game would kick-off at 11.30am, Mr Wakeling added.

The bellringers could be back in action for Aston Villa's next home game, against West Ham, which Sky has brought forward to Good Friday. .



Review, page 3 Villa supporters pass Aston Parish Church vesterday on their way to the Sunday morning match. Claire Lim.

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Code changes are coming. They start on 1st June.



Europe row over GM milk

tween the United States and Europe over genetically manipulated products promoted by the biotechnology giant Monsanto – this time, over milk.

New scientific studies suggest that an artificial hormone used in the US to make cattle produce more milk could raise the risk of breast and prostate cancer in humans.

Yet the American government is now pushing Europe to end a moratorium on the use of animal growth hormones. The moratorium was imposed in 1989 on the grounds that European farmers were already producing too much milk and beef, and there was no need for greater production. It was extended in 1996 and 1997.

But the US says now that the ban infringes free trade rules and, in particular, restrains the ability of Monsanto, which has patented a genetically engineered version of the milkproducing hormone, to sell its product in Europe.

The row carries echoes of the ongoing arguments over imports of bananas from

But since the European ban on bovine somatotropin (BST) came into force in 1997, new scientific evidence has found that insisted the product was safe.

Technology Editor

giving cattle excess levels of the hormone - a naturally-occurring substance - can cause a fivefold rise in the levels of a protein called IGF-1 (immun growth factor) in the milk

Studies published last year in Science and The Lancel, showed that heightened levels of IGF1 in humans carry an increa risk of prostate cancer in men and breast cancer in women.

Senior European vets are understood to have submitted a report to the European Commission calling for the ban on BST to continue. That could trigger a renewed trade row with the US. BST, produced by genetical-

ly engineered bacteria carrying the cattle DNA for the hormone, is marketed by Monsanto under the name Posilac. It was patented, and won approval for use from the US Food and Drug Administration in 1993.

But the quality of the FDA's investigation has now been called into doubt. Critics say that rather than carrying out its Caribbean countries to the EU, own studies on the hormone; which, according to the US, relied on studies summarised breach trade rules. Monsanto's and passed to it by Monsanto. presence also recalls the lack A search by The Independent duced by injected cattle.

A spokesman for Monsanto dismissed the concerns and

of tabelling on genetically-modified soya beans grown in the US but shipped to Europe.

But since the Ferrore.

Of the FDA's literature on BST does not show any investigation of IGF-1 levels in milk pro-

IN BRIEF

Baby found in shopping centre

A NEW-BORN baby was found yesterday abandoned in a box in a shopping arcade in Leicester. The baby boy, only hours old, was taken to Leicester Royal Infirmary. A spokesman said his condition was stable.

Adolescent angst angers adults a

PARENTHOOD IS a frustrating experience, according to a survey published yesterday. Two-thirds of parents are driven to distraction by their children's refusal to help around the home and the state of their bedrooms.

Diana fund chairman steps down

DIANA, PRINCESS of Wales' former lawyer is standing down negotiated her divorce, will remain a trustee of the fund

Three share £13.4m jackpot

THE NUMBERS in Saturday's National Lottery were: 45, 29, 13, 49, 25, 17, bonus 28. Three share a £13.4m jackpot.



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Wendy Boase

WENDY BOASE, founding editor of Walker Books, epitomised all that is best in an editor: she cared passionately about her authors and her books, she cared about the words and the pictures, she cared about every detail of a book's production. Such editors are rare.

51-e was born in Melbourne and had what she described as a "typically outdoorsy Australian upbringing". Much of her time was spent helping her mother run a country store which sold "everything from bras to bathing caps." An avid reader from the start, she discovered the world of Australian children's classics and never lost her fondness for such seminal titles as May Gibbs's Smugglepot and Cuddlepie (1918) and The Magic Pudding by Norman Lindsay (1918). Good storytelling was important to her; she valued and appreciated the quality it could bring into a child's life.

Her schooling was somewhat indifferent but she went on to Sydney University to study Anglo-Saxon and Middle English. A two-year period of teaching in a private school followed her graduation, but then, like so many young Australians of her generation, she set off in 1968 for the almost obligatory "year in H ope" - a year which turned into a lifetime. In London she taught for a while, then took off to travel round Europe and North America.

Returning to London, Boase enjoyed a brief and unlikely spell as a croupier in a gambling club before taking her first publishing job at Reader's Digest, where she was a reluctant secretary until she was promoted to the research department. From there she went to Marshall Cavendish, the book packager. There she met the charismatic Sebastian Walker and the art director Amelia Edwards.

When Walker began his publishing adventure Walker Books, in 1978, he invited Boase to join him "to look after the words". Walker, Boase, and Edwards together set up the fledgling company in the spare bedroom of Walker's Islington home and from this modest start grew a children's book publishing comy which is now one of the most innovative, successful and admired in the world. After Walker's premature death in 1991 the company took on a more structured framework and Boase

joined the new board, becoming **Editorial Director.**

Boase's life was Walker Books. She had vast energy, a huge capacity for work and a fiercely protective attitude towards her authors and artists. She also had a finely tuned feeling for good writing, picking out from the never-ending piles of unsolicited manuscripts such talented writers as Hugh Scott, whose novel Why Weeps the Brogan? won the Whitbread Award in 1989, and Lesley Howarth, who won the Guardian Fiction Award in 1995 with Map Head.

She was especially proud of the Maisy books by Lucy Cousins, and when the first dummies of these little books arrived in the Walker office Boase ran round to everyone enthusiastically hailing a potential bestseller. She was

Nothing but the rarest kind of best is good enough for children,' wrote Walter de la Mare. Wendy Boase lived that ideal

right; 10 titles have followed the original Maisy Goes to Bed (1990), with several more to be published this autumn, including Maisy's Mix-and-Match Mousewear. The books have became world-wide favourites, published in 16 languages. One of Boase's last great coups was the development of a forth-coming television series featuring Maisy.

Boase was an influential figure in the groundbreaking deal Walker struck with Sainsbury, the subsequent marketing in Sainsbury stores of highquality, low-cost children's books, produced by Walker, was one of the most significant developments in children's publishing since the Second World War.

But it was fiction which was Boase's particular love and over 10 years she



Boase's life was Walker Books, which she joined when it began in 1978

built the Walker fiction list to its present pre-eminent position at a time when many publishers were cutting back on their children's fiction. This took courage and vision, and it was a venture supported by the chairman of Walker Books, David Lloyd, from the start.

Like all good editors, Boase ab-horred sloppiness and could be impatient if her high standards were not met. But her colleagues loved and respected her, and many young editors benefited from her training. A rather severe and unchanging hair-style could give her a formidable air, but this was misleading - she was never a grande dame. She retained her down-to-earth Australian directness of manner, did not suffer fools, and had a robustly earthy sense of hu-

mour Boase claimed to have no hobbies but she enjoyed walking and country life, was interested in antiques, never stopped reading and once knitted a Kaffe Fassett sweater Cancer struck her with terrible swiftness and was endured with awesome grace.

"Nothing but the rarest kind of best in anything is good enough for children," wrote Walter de la Mare. Wendy Boase lived that ideal, and the many authors and artists she nurtured with such skill will keep it alive for her.

JULIA MACRAE

Wendy Boase, book editor: born Melbourne, Victoria 14 October 1944; married 1979 John Vigurs; died London 15

LITERARY NOTES

DEBBIE TAYLOR

Time to get out of the kitchen

SPRING IS the season of the Orange Prize for women's garden. All the evidence Orange Prize for women's fiction. It now sprawls like marmalade across nearly three months: from the inaugural Orange Lecture this Monday, through the Orange Breakfast at the end of the month (when the long short-list is announced), on through to the June Declaration of the short short-list and the final prizewinner a week later.

And once again, as every year, it will be open season on the award's feminist agenda as the media get their knickers in a familiar twist about anything smacking of positive discrimination. What may not be realised, however, is that this whole debate is being quietly overtaken by events. Inexorably women are sloughing off decades of under-education and gaining on men in the race for literary distinction.

From birth, women display a greater aptitude for and love of words. Girls speak, read and write earlier than boys and stay ahead in verbal skills all the way through school. As women, they tend to buy more books than men. borrow more from libraries and spend more time reading. In fact, there are now twice as many woman literature graduates than men; twice as many enrolling on creative-writing courses.

shows a woman author's path is strewn with many

more thorns than a man's. For a start, women simply have less time to devote to their writing. The UK's most recent national survey found women doing twice as much housework and childcare as men. Candia McWilliam spoke for many when she claimed that "one child equals two unwritten books".

It's no coincidence that so many prominent woman authors, today and throughout history, are either childless or lesbian or both. Confidence is another problem. A series of recent surveys and market research carried out found that, despite their passion for writing. women are over 50 per cent less likely than men to submit their work for publication.

In a sense this is not surprising. The world of literature, as reflected in the national press, is still a very masculine domain, with twice as many books by men published and over twice as many reviewed - by reviewers who are three times as likely to be men.

Then there are the literary prizes. Men have outnumbered women by around two to one on all the major shortlists for the last 30 years. In poetry the imbalance is Of course, this doesn't even greater, with men win-

ning over nine out of every 10 prizes

But those who look carefully enough see that the tide is on the turn. Never before have so many women taken writing quite so seriously. The two last censuses revealed a quite dramatic increase in the numbers of women taking up writing as a career. From being just 34 per cent of people whose main occupation was writing in 1981, the number of women had increased to 43 per cent a decade later. Come 2001, if the trend continues, female writers will outnumber male writers for the first time in history. And that's not including the many thousands writing part-time, in snatched and stolen time, in "that still

before the baby's cry". It's time to stop picking at the scabs of an old debate and look at the bigger picture. Yes, it is more difficult for woman writers to make a mark. But hey: they are good, they are on their way, they are getting there. And they deserve any prize that's going. As the judges digest the submissions for the Orange Prize, it's time for the spoilers to get out of the kitchen. The

blue almost eternal hour

Debbie Taylor edits 'Mslexia', the new magazine for woman writers launched

cooking time is over.

Professor Trevor Saunders

TREVOR SAUNDERS was a leading authority on ancient Greek philosophy and a superb teacher. He was known inside and outside Newcastle University for his personal integrity, scrupulous fairness, and strong sense of where a scholar's interests lay spiced with occasional bouts of dark foreboding about What The Administration Was Planning Next, which never failed to give pleasure.

He faced the destructive absurdities foisted upon universities in recent years not with blind resistance or hopeless resignation, but with a determination to preserve what every serious researcher in the humanities needs and the authorities nowadays bend over backwards to deny - the time to read, think and write. His own work on Plato showed what could be done by a scholar who harvested his research time carefully but without compromising his commitment to students and colleagues or his sense of duty, however weary at times. to the administration.

His qualities were always in demand, locally and nationally, and brought him the chairmanship of the Council of University Classics Departments, membership of the government research assessment panel for Classics. i a seat on the Council of Durham University, To his secure, clear-eved judgement the Newcastle Classics Department and Arts Faculty turned, with gratitude and relief, time and again.

Saunders was raised on a farm in

Wiltshire, went to Chippenham Gram-mar School, in 1953 took up a scholarship at University College London (graduating with a First in Classics) and ended his formal education at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he completed a doctorate on Plato's Lows. Greek social, political and legal thought was to become the focus of his scholarly life, but early on he found he had a talent for translating, and produced a series of first-rate Penguin Classics. These included Plato's Laws (1970), a complete revision of Aristotle's Politics (1981, originally by T.A. Sinclair - this paved the way for his text and translation of the first two books of The Politics in the Clarendon Aristotle series. 1993) and Plato's Ion in Early Socratic Dialogues (1987). a collection be edited and introduced.

His enviable gift for making complicated philosophy in an ancient language and distant culture comprehensible to a lay readership was never more clearly exhibited than in his teaching, to whose clarity, cogency, vigour and wit generations of students can testify. His scholarly work showed precisely the same qualities - he had no time for the trendy obfuscations of the contemporary literary scene - and commanded a similar respect among his peers, as two recent international conferences on Plato's Lows demonstrated.

His Plato's Penal Code (1991), a fat book without an ounce of fat on it, was



Saunders: Plato comprehended

reflection on Plato, a major contribution to our understanding of ancient Greek legal theory and practice, and a fitting monument to the man and his scholarship: beautifully written, wide-ranging the surveys the field from Homer onwards) and sharply focused, rigorously and courteously argued, and exactingly annotated

Due to retire in September, he had been planning for some time the first modern investigation of ancient Greek theories of equity when cancer of the pancreas was diagnosed, leaving him a few weeks to live. This he bore with the culmination of a lifetime's intense a proper philosophical equanimity.

buoyed by his and his beloved family's longstanding Catholic faith.

A demon croquet player (given the chance), Trevor Saunders found his relaxation in films and railways. It seemed that there was virtually no film he had not seen or would not go to see (for a long time he possessed no television, deing its small screen) and there was certainly nothing about the most obscure branch-line on which he would not discourse, if promoted. Films about railways were his idea of heaven. He was on the footplate of the last train to travel the Wansbeck line, and tape-recorded the sound for posterity His cremation ended. as his family fittingly insisted, with the sound of that train chugging out of Wood-burn station, bearing him on its way. PETER JONES

Trevor John Saunders, classical scholar: born Corsham, Wiltshire 12 July 1934: Assistant Lecturer in Latin, Bed ford College, London University 1959-61; Assistant Lecturer in Classics, Hull University 1961-63, Lecturer 1963-65; Lecturer in Classics, Newcastle University, 1965-72, Senior Lecturer 1972-78, Reader in Greek Philosophy 1978, Professor of Greek 1978-99, Head of Classics 1972-82, 1987-92, Dean of the Faculty of Arts 1982-85; Chairman, Council of University Classics Departments 1981-84; married 1959 Teresa Schmitz (two daughters); died Newcastle upon Tyne 24 January 1999.

CASE SUMMARIES

22 MARCH 1999

life imprisonment, required

that the offender had had pos-

the offender himself had never

Neil Moore (CPS) for the Attorney General: Louise Godfrey QC (Gra-

had possession of it.

THE FOLLOWING notes of judgments were prepared by the reporters of the All England Law Reports.

Costs

v Liverpool Magistrates' Court, ex p Abiaka; QBD, Div Ct (Kennedy LJ. Blofeld J) 5 March 1999.

ON A true construction of s 16(1) of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 any magistrates' court had the power to make a defendant's costs order: the power was not restricted to the particular bench of magistrates who had actually dismissed the case against the defendant. Furthermore, there was nothing in the statute which stated that costs orders had to be made timeously. Stuart Mills (R.M. Broudie & Co, Liperpool) for the applicant.

Hillsdown Holding pic v IR Commrs; Ch D (Arden J) 11

THE WORD "payment" meant 'effective payment" in relation to a payment made to an employer out of its approved pension scheme, giving rise to a tax liability under s 601 of the Taxes Act 1988. Where the payment to the employer was found to be in breach of trust. and was returned to the pension fund by order of the court. there was no "effective payment" and the Revenue had to repay the tax

David Oliver QC and Nigel Giffen (Herbert Smith) for the taxpayer; lan Click QC and Richard Gillis (IR Soln) for the Crown.

Sentencing

Attorney-General's Reference (No 71 of 1998); CA. Crim Div (Judge آـلّـ, Sachs, Klevan JJ) 8 March 1999.

WHERE AN offender who had

already been convicted of a liminary issues in the same lit-"serious offence" within s 2(5) igation, since those judgements of the Crime (Sentences) Act were binding only in relation to 1997 committed a robbery which, in order to qualify as a second "serious offence" making him liable to a sentence of

session of a firearm, it was Willan) for the respondents. sufficient that the offence had been committed as a joint Extradition enterprise where a firearm had been used, even though

hame Stowe Bateson, Leeds) for the offender.

Employment Barber and ors v RJB Mining (UK) Ltd; QBD (Gage J) 3

March 1999. . REGULATION 4(1) of the Working Time Regulations 1998, which set a maximum weekly working time for all workers covered by the regulations, imposed a contractual obligation on the parties which was capable of remedy in the civil courts, and accordingly the employment tribunal did not have exclusive urisdiction over claims arising out of the regulations.

Brian Langstoff QC (Keeble Hawson, Sheffield) for the plaintiffs; Nicholas Underhill QC (Freshfields) for the defendant.

Reinsurance

Wurtiembergische Aktiengeselleschaft Versicherungs-Beteiligungsesellschaft v Home Insurance Co; CA (Butler-Sloss. Aldous, Brooke LJJ) 9 March

A JUDGE deciding a preliminary issue in the course of prolonged litigation was wrong to use the expression "persuaearlier judgments on other pre- Solicitors for the respondents.

the matters which they had Jonathan Hirst QC. Neil Calver (Barlow Lyde & Gilbert) for the appellants; Mark Howard QC. Robin Dicker (Holman Fenwick &

Re Burke; QBD, Div Ct (Rose LJ, Mitchell J) 16 March 1999. THE WORD "sentence" in art VII(4) of Sch 1 to the United States of America (Extradition) order 1976 was not confined to a sentence of imprisonment, but included a term of supervised release to be served following a term in custody. Such a supervised release was not an ancillary order, but was an integral part of the sentence passed. Furthermore, an order to pay a sum of money by way of restitution and a fine also fell within the article as being a sentence.

John Hardy (Christmas & Sheehan) for the applicant: Roy Brown (CPS) for the Governor of Brixton Prison and the United States Government.

Adoption Re B (a minor) (adoption order: nationality): House of Lords (Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Hoffmann, Lord Hope of Craighead, Lord Hutton and Lord Millett) 11 March 1999. WHEN CONSIDERING whether to make an adoption order under s 6 of the Adoption Act 1976, the court should not, in determining whether the child's welfare called for adoption, ignore benefits which would result solely from a change in immigration status. Michael Harrison QC. David Jones (Blake Lapthorn) for the appelsive obiter dicta" in relation to lants; Ashley Underwood (Transury

NOT NEW to The Complete Lyrics of Noël Coward, and undoubtedly true, "Even Clergymen Are Naughty Now and Theu" (On with the Dance, 1925) is not as well known as it might be. (The greatest such gem is "Time Will Tell", cut from several shows.) As for the clergy,

WORDS CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

ken, n. and v.

a week goes by / In which some one doesn't die. / So we really mustn't grumble Douglas Byng and Ernest very much." One can pic-Thesiger sang: "There's not ture this harmonising vicar

the cup of duty to the very brim / Ideas may sometimes swim / Into our ken". Curiously, ken - with тару Енгореал едиічаlents and defined by Johnson as "view; reach of sight" - is seemed rare by the OED, when it was surely given currency by Kenneth Horne's wireless show,

and curate: "though we fill

GAZETTE

tone, 54; Mr Charles Pick,

BIRTHS. MARRIAGES & DEATHS

IN MEMORIAM

LASSOW: Hilda. In loving memo-ry of my wonderful mother who left me last year. She was such a bright light and I miss her more than words can say. From her loving daughter

Announcements for BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In emoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette notices are charged at £10 (VAT extra). | gia, 57; Mr Alan Opie, bari-

BIRTHDAYS

Mr George Benson, singer and jazz guitarist, 56: Mr Desmond Browne MP, 47; Miss Betty Callaway, iceskating trainer, 71; Miss Sheila Cameron QC, Vicar General of the Province of Canterbury, 65; Mr Brian Hanrahan, broadcaster, 50: Mr David Ingman, former Chairman, British Waterways Board, 71; The Very Rev Lawrence Jackson, Provost Emeritus of Blackburn, 73; Dr Harry Kay, former Vice-Chancellor, Exeter University, 80; Mr Werner Klemperer, actor, 80; Lord Lloyd-Webber, composer, 51; Mr Peter McEvoy, golfer, 46; Mr Karl Malden, actor, 86; M Marcel Marceau, mime artist, 76; Mr Andrew Morris, High Commissioner to Tonga, 60; Mr Stephen Nash, ambassador to Geor-

former managing director, Heinemann, 82; Sir Lynden Pindling, former prime minister of the Bahamas, 69; Professor William Ritchie Vice-Chancellor, Lancaster University, 59; Mr Paul Rogers, actor, 82; Mr Paul Schockemöhle, showjumper, 54; Mr William Shatner, actor, 68; Mr Stephen Soudheim, composer and lyricist, 69; Professor Sir Colin Spedding. chairman, UK Register of Organic Food Standards Board, 74; Lord Stokes, former president, British Leyland, 85; Miss Mary Tamm, actress, 49; Mr Leslie Thomas, writer, 68: Professor Sir Leslie Turnberg, chairman, Specialist Training Authority, 65; Miss Fanny Waterman, pianist and teacher, 79: Professor David Watson, Director, University of Brighton, 50.

ANNIVERSARIES Births: Sir Anthony van

Dyck, painter, 1599. Deaths: Thomas Carew, poet, 1639; Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, writer, 1832. On this day: the National Gallery in London was founded by the purchase of 38 pictures from J.J. Angerstein, 1824; an attempt was made to abduct Princess Anne in the Mall, London, 1973. Today is the Feast Day of St Basil of Ancyra, St Benvenuto of Osimo, St Deogratias, St Nicholas Owen, St Nicholas von Flüe and St. Paul of Narbonne.

LECTURES

Royal Academy of Arts. at the Society of Antiquaries. London W1: MaryAnne Stevens, "Monet's Perception of Modernity", 1pm.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

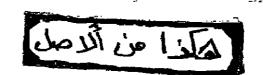
The Prince of Wales, Pairon,

the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Ethiopian Challenge 1999 Expedition, attends a ption in aid of the expedition. The Princess Royal. Patron, the Butler Trust, attends the Annual Award Cere mony at Buckingham Palace; opens Hill Homes' new nursing home, Bridgeside Lodge in Wharf Road, London N1; and, as Patron, Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, attends the launch of a new biography of Gerald Durrell at Harper-Collins, Fulham Palace Road, London SW7.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD The Household Cavairy Mount

ed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; F Company Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Scots Guards,

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.



Couple lead rush for 'smart babies'

INCREASING NUMBERS of in- BY CHERRY NORTON fertile British women are travelling to the United States to buy "intelligent eggs" from Ivy League students for up to

One young, professional couple from London has just conceived after selecting a donor with an IQ of 152 on the Inter- tive for the American college net. British law does not allow students who donate eggs. a woman to be paid for donating her eggs and the demand countant from Los Angeles far outweighs the supply. Cur- who has an IQ of 150, has dorently, 5,000 women are waiting nated eggs three times at £2,000

for donor eggs. Fertility clinics in the US are offering eggs from students end of my final year at college at top universities with high IQs when I was desperate to pay off who identify themselves as having drive and ambition.

Intelligence is one of the main attributes people are looking for. Future parents are often more willing to be flexible on health history than they are on academic achievement and intelligence," said Teri Royal, director of the California-based Options National Fertility Registry.

The woman who bought eggs via the Internet, a 31year-old lawyer, said: "We wanted someone with a good college education, who was intelligent

with a cheerful personality." The woman, who has been married for six years, had failed to conceive using fertility drugs. She turned to the service in the US because she did not want to wait for an egg donor in Britain - a minimum of three years. "I have wanted to be a mother all my life and was devastated when I could not conceive naturally," she said.

One in six couples in Britain has problems conceiving.

Social Affairs Correspondent

In 1997, 800 egg donors came forward but the discrepancy between supply and demand means that many couples wait several years for an egg.

Money is usually the incen-Mary Johnson, a 26-year-old aceach time.

"The first time was at the my university debts," said Ms Johnson, who is single and childless. Two sets of twin boys have been produced from her

donor eggs.
"I would not have done it if there had been no financial compensation. There is a lot of time and effort involved and it is a difficult physical process. You really have to want to help people, too, to go through with

Fertility clinics in Britain say that the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority's rule of allowing only egg donors' expenses to be paid was ambiguous. "We can pay their expenses but we cannot pay them directly," said Professor Ian Craft, director of the London Gynaecology and Fertility centre. "It is not very honourable; a controlled payment would be much more satisfactory. We should be able to offer a selection of donors here. It is not right that couples are forced into going abroad for fer-



The herald, Jerome Whitney, blowing the horn yesterday as members of the Order of Druids perform a ceremony celebrating the spring equinox at Tower Hill in London. There are about 15,000 Druids in Britain today

John Voos

Tories to woo Scots with low tax

SCOTTISH TORIES will fight By STEPHEN GOODWIN the Holyrood election as the party of low taxation, their leader, David McLetchie, declared yesterday.

In his keynote address to the Scottish Tory conference in Perth, he said: "The clearest choice of all in this election is tax." He warned that Scottish taxpayers would be in line for a financial pounding with a Labour administration in Holyrood with road tolls, higher business rates and a tourist tax.

And he added: "As far as the Liberals are concerned if Jim Wallace is successful in slipping

Scotland Correspondent

under the duvet with Donald Dewar you'll get more taxes

He said the Scottish National Party would make people in Scotland the highest taxed in the UK, adding: "It's not a their decision in the referenpenny for Scotland - it's a penalty for being Scots." The Tories, he declared, would stand for, "no new taxes, no increased taxes, a parliament that lives within its means just like every family in

Scotland has to do.'

to tackle problems in health and trons and retired business folk education, adding: "They don't want the parliament condemned to endless years of constitutional wrangling. We have had 30 years of debate about the constitution in Scot-

tish politics. The people made They want to carry on the war." Among the cruellest ironies at the Perth gathering was the

rapturous ovation accorded to the former cabinet ministers Sir Michael Forsyth and Sir Mal-

people wanted the parliament colm Rifkind. The elderly mawho make up much of what is left of the Conservative faithful No party is likely to have an north of the border would love either of these two political heavyweights to lead them into

the home-rule era. But both have turned their backs on the parliament. Instead of the bitdum. We accept and respect ing wit and energy of Forsyth that decision. The SNP don't. or the gravitas of Rifkind, the party has to applaud the stolid performances of Mr McLetchie.

Thanks to the fairer voting system to be used for the elections on 6 May, the Tories are expected to win around a dozen

liament. Under the traditional first-past-the-post method they would probably have got none.

overall majority and Mr McLetchie signalled that he would use any deciding influence to maintain the union with England – pledging to have no truck with anything that helped the "separatists".

Labour was quick to distance itself from any idea of a "grand unionist coalition" even a hint of a deal with the Conservatives could be an electoral kiss of death.

Labour backs

BY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

NEW POWERS to allow the Child Support Agency to investigate the income of errant fathers were defended yesterday by Alistair Darling, the Social Security Secretary.

The agency is to be allowed unprecedented access to Inland Revenue computer files to cross-check on the income of absent fathers. It will enable the agency to deduct maintenance payments according to a new sliding scale to simplify the system: 15 per cent of their net income for the first child; 20 per cent for the second; and 25 per cent for three or more.

The Conservative spokesman on social security, lain Duncan Smith, said the plans would be an "appailing breach

of privacy".

But Mr Darling said it was intolerable that rich absent fathers "running around in a BMW" should pay nothing toward their children's upkeep. "Most people would say it's entirely reasonable that where that father has money, and sometimes quite substantial amounts of money, we should require him to pay for that child," Mr Darling said.

The Social Security Secretary will be announcing antiis also planning longer-term changes to the law to let agency inspectors ask the Inland Revenue and National Insurance authorities for details of where unco-operative absent parents

worked. Mr Darling told BBC1's Breakfast with Frost: "We want to ensure fathers accept that if they help bring a child into the world they are responsible for that child for the rest of its life.

"The current situation, has been left with a child but the father is running around in a BMW and apparently the CSA can't do anything about it, is



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'Ill-mannered Lords needs Speaker'

PEERS WHO put their feet on the table in the Lords' chamber AND AMANDA BROWN and read newspapers during speeches should be kept in order by a figure in the mould of Betty Boothroyd, a former House of Commons Speaker suggested yesterday.

Lord Weatherill, who preceded Ms Boothroyd in the role, suggested that rowdy and ill-mannered new peers, in particular, needed to be reminded

The Rouse of Lords has no speaker, and until recently most peers felt the system worked well. Members waited politely as colleagues spoke and there was none of the rowdy atmosphere of the House of an optional extra." Commons

An influx of new life peers since the general election led to changes, however. A report

complained of peers talking privately to one another during debates and complained that question time often degenerated into "bad manners, posturing and frivolity". It said: "Courtesy should not be seen as

Many of the new peers were unaware of the rules. Some forgot to bow when the mace was carried past them, read

published last month by the their speeches instead of speak-Lords' Procedure Committee ing without notes and ading without notes and addressed one another as "you" instead of as "the noble Lord".

"The sight of frontbenchers putting their feet on the table gives a poor impression to other members and to the public. We recommend that this practice

should cease," the report said. Lord Weatherill, a member of the Procedure Committee and convener of the crossbench peers, said a lack of rules had in. "I wouldn't be surprised if we didn't have a Speaker here in five years' time," he said. But the 78-year-old former MP who retired from the Commons in 1992, did not see himself taking on the role. "Before anyone

asks, I am too old." His suggestion drew a mixed response from other peers, Lord Walker of Doncaster, a former deputy speaker of the House of Commons, said he too

led to some problems creeping had called for such a reform. A great deal of time was wasted cause peers wandered off the point during debates and there was no one to pull them up, he said.

> a speaker in the House of Lords or any kind of chairman would not dream of attending a meeting elsewhere unless there was someone in the chair," he said.

"Those peers who don't want

Earl Russell, a Liberal De-However, Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne, formerly mocrat peer and historian,

Liberal Democrat, thought the

introduction of a speaker would

be "disastrous". Compared with

Members in the Commons, the

peers were "angelic", she said.

"I would like to send our rules

down to the House of Commons.

They work because of self-

regulation - it is sixth form as

opposed to primary school,"

a Conservative MP and now a invoked a 500-year-old order last year to rebuke the former Labour general secretary Larry Whitty, now Lord Whitty. for accusing him of "posing as the students' triend" during an education dehate.

"He apologised, I bought him a drink and we became firm friends," he said. "If there was a speaker, people would devolve responsibility for things they have to do themselves at the

Pinochet wiles away the hours on the Net

AUGUSTO PINOCHET learns By Kim Sengupta his fate this week. As the law lords prepare to give their long-awaited ruling on whether he has immunity from prosecution, intense behind-the-scenes lobbying is being organised by General Pinochet and his supporters.

During his months under housearrest the former Chilean dictator has been repeatedly threatening to die in this country as 'a martyr to the Father-

In the meantime he has been busy planning his campaign with his friends and supporters. The general likes to chair the meetings personally to discuss contingency plans. Among those offering sympathy and advice are a group of Thatcherites such as Lord Bell, the former chancellor Lord Lamont of Lerwick, a public relations man, Patrick Robertson, and Robin Harris, who wrote a pamphlet on the iniquity of incarcerating "the saviour of Chile".

But increasingly there is a lowers that they will lose at the House of Lords on Wednesday, with a split decision favouring his extradition to Spain on charges of human rights abuse.

While he waits, the former or's life in the hou Lindale Close on the Wentworth estate in Surrey, rented by the Chilean government for £10,000 a month, has fallen into a pattern.

The general is an early riser, and after a "simple breakfast" he likes to walk in the back garden, leaning on his walking stick. Police dogs check the

grounds first and armed officers keep watch. Afterwards the general starts to make his way through a pile of newspapers, voraciously reading everything written about him in the papers and then searching on the Internet for more.

Organising his campaign wiles away most of the day, with the general taking a keen interest in events in Chile as well as here, keeping in touch with the Pinochet Foundation, which is raising funds for his defence. There is a steady stream of

visitors. The general is said to be, at times, irritated by too many people in the house, which is not particularly big. His wife Lucia, a formidable figure. ensures visitors do not outstay their welcome. Mrs Pinochet is in charge of

organising domestic chores. dispatching the general's security guards - large men in dark suits and sunglasses - to the local Waitrose for shopping. worry among Pinochet camp fol- The couple's favourite dish is pastel del choclo - beef and chicken in a corn pastry. Guests can drink a Chilean cabernet sauvignon launched by an admiring wine grower and called the Capitan General. The go to the general's defence fund. The fermer dictator himself, though, is teetotal.

Often all this takes place to the background noise of drumming and tambourine-playing by anti-Pinochet protesters. Sometimes there are counterdemonstrators, and Mrs Pinochet can be seen at the doorway



General Pinochet's days of walks and campaign meetings at his Wentworth house may end this week

bellowing encouragement to them through a megaphone.

week, however. If the law lords decide that General Pinochet does enjoy immunity as a former head of state, he is expected to be flown home straight away.

But a decision against the general will mean the beginning of a long drawn-out extradition process lasting months. In the end, if magistrates in London

agree to extradition, the Home trip to Chile. There were further and would not only call into Secretary, Jack Straw, will have claims that the future home question his right to make any ahead or return the 83-year-old former dictator to Chile on compassionate grounds.

Sign of pessimism in the Pinochet camp have emerged recently in the form of stories placed in right-of-centre Sunday newspapers. They claimed that Mr Straw had taken tee with Salvador Allende while on a student anti-Pinochet demonstration in London after President Allende was overthrown by the general.

Lord Lamont said that if the stories were true, they would call into question the previous assurances about the extent of Mr Straw's involvement in activities over Chilean politics and show "he misled Parliament

peared to have backfired, with Straw did not meet Allende. H General Pinochet, but also his didn't demonstrate against own position as Home Secre-Pinochet in London or elsewhere on his return to the UK."

A similar exercise had led to the first law lords decision on General Pinochet being set aside after revelations of Lord Hoffmann's links with Amnesty International

But this time the spin ap-

Privacy law may scupper e-trade

BY CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Editor

THE FUTURE of electronic commerce between Europe and America could be threatened by a row over unified Eu ropean laws about data privacy: From this summer, it will be an offence for European compames to pass data about customers - such as names. addresses, telephone numbers and credit information - to American organisations.

Though the laws are partly intended to stop unscrupulous companies in foreign countries bothering people in Europe with unwanted sales pitches, the prospect has many British and American marketing companies "very worried", according to industry sources, who fear that it could create the electronic equivalent of a trade war.

"It is an inhibitor to global electronic commerce," said Colin Lloyd, chief executive of the Direct Marketing Association (DMA). "We are wrestling with exactly what the solution is, because direct marketing is becoming an international phenomenon.

The Data Protection Registrar in Berkshire said that it is receiving hundreds of calls each month from firms worried about the effect that the dispute

could have on their business. The US and Europe had hoped to find a formula for agreement by the end of April. up without a solution.

British companies with direct marketing arms in the US will face problems if no solution is found. "If you rang their European office, they could not oass vour phone number to the US office for them to call vou back." said Mr Lloyd. "It's a real barrier to trade.

David Banisar, policy director for the Electronic Privacy Information Centre in Wash ington, said: "Europeans are treating privacy as a fundamental human right and they want to protect their citizens as much as they can. The US position is based on American in dustry's position that privacy is a commodity that should be

The Data Protection Act in Britain says that companies must register with an independent body if they process data about people. The US has no such registration process.

Salinger has 15 unpublished books hidden in vault

U D SALINGER, the author of By JOHN DAVISON The Catcher in the Rye and the vorid's most famous literary ecluse, keeps the manuscripts of at least 15 unpublished books in a vault at his home. It is thought that he might allow them to be published after his

Friends say that he has never stopped writing, although

he has not published a word since a collection of short stories in 1965. His second and last novel to appear, in 1961, was Franny and Zooey, featuring the Glass family.

It is thought that at least some of the published novels continue this family's saga.

BBC2 Close Up arts documentary about the American author, which is to be broadcast tomorrow. Friends and family members also talk for the first time about how fame and his experiences in the Second

World War changed him. Salinger, who is 80 this year, was catapulted to same after inspiring sans to travel on pil-

The claims are made in a The Catcher in the Rye was published in 1951. It told the story of Holden Caulfield, a disillusioned 16-year-old and his search for something to

> The book has acquired a cult status over the decades, becoming a standard school text at the same time as

the county town of Cornish, New Hampshire. It even became the subject of conspiracy theories after a copy was found on Mark Chapman. the man who shot John Lennon. The writer, however, has always fiercely guarded

His last interview was given

grimages to Salinger's home in to a 17-year-old schoolgirl, and after it made national news he refused all other media approaches. In that last interview he revealed that The Catcher in the Rue was autobiographical, sparking yet more

interest in his life. When Joyce Maynard was 19 she started corresponding with Salinger and remembers: "It

a memoir of their time together. which he saw as a threat to his cloistered existence.

The last words Salinger ever spoke to her were: "The problem with you, Joyce, is that you love the world."

was like Holden Caulfield writ

Me Maynard later went to

live with the writer, and wrote

Furthermore, "the Home

Secretary was legally advised

when it became clear he would

be called to make a decision that

this visit was not relevant to

decisions in relation to the

Pinochet extradition case".

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African schools in crisis, says Oxfam

THE SIGHT of African school- BY ALEX DUVAL SMITH children gathered enthusiastically for class in the shade of a tree is becoming rarer, and poverty is increasing as a consequence, Oxfam will warn

In a ground-breaking report on education in the developing world, the charity finds that sub-Saharan Africa has the lowest school enrolment rates and highest drop-out figures. Wartorn countries are among the worst affected, but even Zam- to Africa's poverty.

bia lacks blackboards in a quarter of its classes, and there is one textbook to every 20 children in Tanzania. Girls are the

At press conferences today in London, Washington and Johannesburg, Oxfam will urge donor countries and institutions concerned with debt relief to focus on the education crisis which, it says, is directly linked

mance index" - which looks at enrolment, equality of treatment for boys and girls, and the number of years spent in school - is topped by Bahrain, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates. Muslim countries are found, on the whole, not to ne-

glect girls' schooling.

African countries fare badly in the index, with Niger and Ethiopia found to be worst of the 104 countries in the survey. Botswana is in 22nd place.

South Africa is 40th and Kenya

Oxfam says nearly 900 million people - one in four adults in the developing world - are illiterate and that 125 million children never attend school.

"Today a child in Mozam-

bique can expect to go to school

for two to three years of his or her life, with luck. "Ethiopia has one of the lowest rates of enrolment in the world and one of the largest

gender gaps. Fewer than one-

third of 6 to 11-year-old boys and one-tenth of girls are enrolled in school," the authors of the re-

Oxfam claims that the international community's deadline for universal education -2015 - will be unattainable unless governments act now. The report says universal primary education by 2015 would cost \$8bn (£5bn) - the approximate

amount Europeans spend every year on mineral water. Oxfam wants increased aid

from rich countries and a stronger focus by donors on edating poverty. It wants poor countries to divert money from arms spending to education and for debt-relief bodies to re-

ward them for doing so. According to the report. Zambia currently spends four times more on debt servicing than on education.

"Unless differences in educational opportunity are reduced, mequalities in education

unequal, less prosperous and more unstable world," says the report, entitled Education

Oxfam says that despite stories of successful entrepreneurs who have no formal education, there is strong evidence that people who are under-educated are disproportionately represented in the ranks of the poor.

"In Niger, 70 per cent of families living in poverty are

will create an increasingly headed by an adult with no education. Maternal primary education improves infant survival prospects," says the re-

It also points to positive examples of progress - in Uganda, for instance, where a primary education enrolment drive has recruited 2 million pupils in less than a year. Oxfam also praises Mali and Burkina Faso - two of the world's poorest countries - for

community-level initiatives.

Tribe owns its land after 20,000 years

DESCENDANTS of the world's BY ALEX DUVAL SMITH earliest inhabitants, a clan of the near-extinct San (bushmen) of the southern Kalahari, marked the end of years of official persecution yesterday when they received 155,000 acres of land from the South African government.

Beneath scorching sun on the dunes of the Kalahari, it was left to/Guna Rooi, 70, to sum up the historic event. She hugged Thabo Mbeki, South Africa's deputy president, and said "/aise". It simply means "thank you" - the slash denotes a click in N/u, the original language of the Khomani clan. Mrs Rooi is one of only 15 known speakers of it. Mr Mbeki understood the sentiment, if not the word.

"Today marks the rebirth of a people who were landless and were called thieves when they said, marking South African Human Rights Day.

"This land is a place to rebuild a community. Here the Khomani can fulfil a dream that can be lived collectively by all people."

dreds aimed at compensating South Africans for apartheid included an equal land gift to the 5,000-strong Mier commu-

San clans in South Africa, and the Mier, who are mixed-raced settlers, were expelled from the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park between 1931 and 1973. San in Botswana and Angola are still subjected to forced

have distinctive high cheekyears the targets of a genocide by white and black settlers who saw them as sub-human. Their traditions, which include hunting with poisoned arrows, date back at least 20,000 years and co-exist uncomfortably with settled farming.
"Some of the Khomani may

decide to live in the traditionasked for the land back," he al, nomadic San fashion, and others may prefer to use the land to combine their historic way of life with a more modern approach," said Alec Haroer of the Department for International Development.

Yesterday's settlement - the a new focus on human rights, most poignant among hun- Britain has pledged £600,000 to the South African San Institute

charged with helping the

in Molopo, southern Kalahari

The San, nomadic huntergatherers of small build who bones, were for hundreds of

Early plans include raising As part of an aid policy with Kalahari.

The institute has been

rents from farmers on 100,000 acres and from the parks board on 55,000 acres in the Sasi is proposing an eco-

tourism project – under which Khomani might lead trails following animal tracks - but the national park is resisting it.

There are many questions

problems and live a settled ex- was never allowed to return to N/u-speaker, Anna Kassie, said: istence in a shack village, will thrive on their new land. But the land claim has brought about a new sense of identity and has' saved the N/u language.

Mrs Rooi, who lives in Upington, a large town 160 miles away, was taken from the Kalahari with her two sisters to be an exhibit in the 1936 Empire nity, also of the Northern Cape. Khomani to manage the land over the extent to which the Exhibition in Johannesburg, Both the Khomani, one of three awarded to them yesterday. Khomani, who have alcohol Durban and Cape Town. She

her birthplace - beneath a tree where the warden of the national park now lives.

Nigel Crawshaw, the Sasi land. linguist who found her thanks to word-of-mouth contacts. said: "Until 1997, the park was still claiming that no Khomani were ever removed. Finding /Guna was a crucial moment for the land claim and the language." Her friend and fellow

"When I am no longer here, and I die, I want it to be known in my language that this was our

"N/u is very beautiful and expresses things you can never say in Afrikaans. When you learn it, you first get to know all the animals' names and then what they do," said Mrs Kassie, whose age is unclear but who has a 27-year-old

daughter. She also has four other daughters and four sons. She said: "I spoke the language to my children but it was always when I was disciplining them. So they did not like the language."

Her 27-year-old daughter Lena said: "I knew N/u when I was small but Afrikaans was the language of school and it was not comfortable to talk our own

Zambian writers on spy charges

THREE MORE journalists from the Zambian newspaper The Post have been charged with espionage over a report into the country's defence capability their lawyer said yesterday. /

The move follows espionage charges laid earlier this month against six reporters from the independent daily newspaper. The three other journalists.

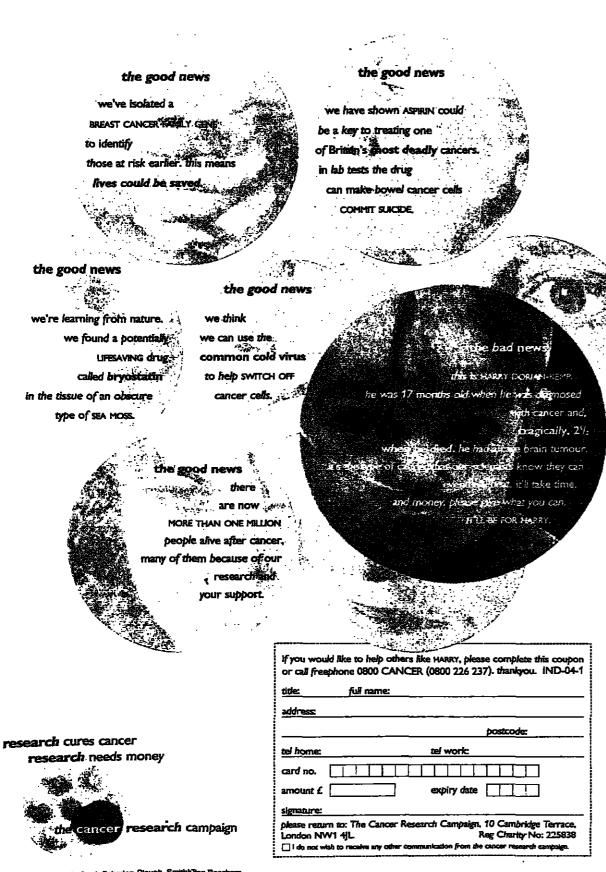
Douglas Hampande, MacPherson Muyumba and Reuben Phiri, were charged on Saturday and told to appear in court in Lusaka with the six other on 16 April, their lawyer, Sakviba Sikota, said. They appeared briefly in court and were not detained. "We expect more arrests to come." Mr Sikota

Six Post journalists were granted bail on Thursday on accusations of exposing "state security information to the enemy". If convicted, all nine journalists face minimum 20ear prison terms and maximum terms of life in prison.

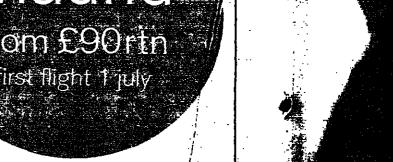
On 9 March The Post quoted unnamed senior military officers criticising Zambia's ability to defend itself, saying it would not withstand any attacks by the far superior army of neighbouring Angola. Relations between the two countries have been tense since Angolan alleged that Zambia is supplying arms to Angolan tebels, a charge Lusaka denies. (AP)



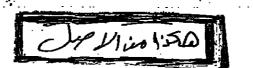
South Africa's deputy president, Thabo Mbeki (left), greeting bushmen as he arrives in the southern Kalahari yesterday







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Serbs drive thousands de les instance where a from homes

ANOTHER WAVE of human mis- By EMMA DALY ery swept across Kosovo yesterday, with thousands more Albanians abandoning their homes for fear of a Yugoslav offensive backed by tanks and artillery. Cars, tractors hitched to trailers, and horse-drawn carts hauled the luckier ones down muddy tracks towards the relative safety of small towns in the Drenica region while, in the distance, shells crashed into the

"We left our women and children in Cirez, in the mosque and the school, yesterday morning," said Gani Krasniqi, one of about 20 men in Trdevac "They didn't have any food, and we don't know what happened to them. The road out is blocked now by soldiers and police."

The men, all from the village of Gladna Selo, where only a few days ago people were opening their homes to refugees, said they were too frightened to stay as many as 20,000 newly disin the area but did not want to bring their families along the road to Glogovac, because of the Serbian advance. Now they be in the city - for example, feared their loved ones were trapped, with hundreds more from Gradica, since the road north of Cirez leads through Palance, scene of heavy fighting yesterday.

"Of course we are very worried, we don't have any news of them," said Mr Krasnigi, whose wife, 19-month-old son and mother are missing. "It is too risky to go to Cirez now."

His cousin Xhafer added: "The Serbs are near Gladna Selo, in positions with spipers.

in Głogovac, Kosovo

you." As he spoke, another. shell sounded. Soldiers of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) Organised an evacuation of the civilian population in Drenica, dispatching tractors to outlying houses to collect people. Others simply walked out "Don't take photographs, bring bombs," one man called out.

Small children and elderly women wept, and everyone told the same story: the Serbs were close and the Albanians were terrified. "We escaped along the road during the night," said Mr Krasniqi. We don't have any place to stay. I don't know where we will sleep tonight."

Earlier that day, aid agencies including the United Nations, had delivered food, blankets and medicines to a warehouse in a suburb of Glogovac, where placed people were seeking shelter. "We can't go to Giogovac because it is dangerous to there were massacres in Srbica," said Mr Krasniqi. "We heard that seven or eight people were killed there." Along the main road towards

Srbica, Serbian forces waited around tanks flying the red, white and blue flag of Yugoslavia. But they had not managed to link up with their comrades attacking the KLA from the north, around Polance.

In Srbica, policemen ordered journalists to leave immediately, as armoured personnel You cannot go back into the vil- carriers jostled for space with aged by explosives. "Go back, lage because they shoot at army vehicles and masked po- it's not safe," said one Yugoslav

tense, everybody is inside their homes and nobody is going out," said one of the few civilians who had ventured abroad.

Broken windows and burning houses were evidence of Saturday's police operation in which, according to locals, officers went house-to-house demanding money. "They came into my house and they asked for money. Then one in a mask asked for my brother. I said he had gone to Mitrovica, and he said, OK, send him my regards and tell him we will be back." said one young woman. "If there was no money, they killed

She had beard reports of five or six such killings, but, like Mr Krasniqi, had not witnessed been confirmed by any independent source. As she spoke, there was the boom of artillery fired from the ammunitions factory in Srbica, a base for Yugoslav forces.

North-east of the town olumes of dark smoke rose from the village of Gornje Prekaz, held last week by the KLA. Yugoslav troops strolled through snowy fields, away from the burning buildings and towards the armoured personnel carriers parked on the main road by their comrades.

South of the town, rebels fought a fierce battle with Yugoslav troops backed by tanks and artillery trying to take control of the road to Glogovac. One bridge had been destroyed in the fighting, another was mined and a third was slightly damaged by explosives. "Go back,



Albanian refugees trying to escape the fighting in the Drenica region of Kosovo yesterday

Santiago Lyon

soldier, as heavy machine-gun terday. "For them it is important crammed into one school buildfire rattled in the distance. to open the main road." But for ing, while 120 families are "Today our soldiers are rethe rebels, he said, the main sisting as never before on the concern was to evacuate civilroad from Polance," said Gani Koci, a KLA spokesman in the

ians safely from the war zone. Whether Glogovac counts as headquarters village of Likovac, a safe place remains to be seen. More than 500 people are itself a target of shelling yes-

camped in another. Every house contains at least 10 new guests.

"Conditions are very bad. We diseases," said Jusuf Dobra of two days."

the Mother Teresa aid agency. "Considering the number of people who are here and those still coming, I don't think there will be enough food. These don't have running water or home-owners cannot provide electricity, so there is a risk of for the refugees for more than

etables. The Interior Minister,

Sergei Stepashin, said he be-

lieved only religious fanatics

could have carried out such a

Whatever the truth, peace

Chirac escapes judicial inquiry

BY JOHN LICRFIELD

THE PRESIDENT is off the hook for now. Despite written evidence suggesting that Jacques Chirac knew about the illegal funding of his Gaullist party: a public prosecutor has ruled he cannot be investigated through the normal judicial channels.

But the legal and political reverberations of the scandal of the "300 fictitious employees" at the Paris town hall are far from over

The Elysee Palace is demanding an investigation into how the French news agency, Agence France-Presse (AFP) came to be given the wrong story on Friday night. AFP reported that the President was to be placed under formal investigation, setting alarm bells ringing all over France.

In fact, the public prosecutor had accepted a controversial ruling by the country's constitutional watchdog that the oresident of the republic was immune from investigation for any alleged crime, whether committed before or during his term of office. The constitutional council ruled in January that a president could be investigated only by a special court - the Haute Cour de Justice de la République.

The case arises from a threeyear-old investigation of the financing of Mr Chirac's neo-Gaullist party, the RPR. The investigating judge, Patrick Desmure, has found evidence that Paris taxpayers were unwittingly funding the party in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Scores of RPR officials (up to 300 according to one account) were on the city pay-roll.

Mr Chirae was mayor of Paris and president of the RPR at the time. Until last month, no direct evidence had emerged that he knew of what was happening. Judge Desmure has now found a letter from December 1993, in which Mayor Chirac talks of the "excellent" work of a phantom city official for a senior RPR executive.

The official was employed by Paris town hall to liaise with "agricultural organisations" (hardly a priority for a city government). She worked full-time from RPR headquarters. The date of the letter is significant. It is several months after an "amnesty" was declared on illegal party funding, in return for a promise by politicians of all colours to mend their ways.

Judge Desmure can reject the prosecutor's ruling and proceed with a formal investigation of the President. Alternatively, he can refer the case to the Haute Cour, or drop the

Chechen president escapes roadside bomb



ssassination attempt

CHECHNYA'S moderate Presi- By HELEN WOMACK dent. Aslan Maskhadov, nar- in Moscow rowly escaped with his life sterday when a roadsid bomb exploded within seconds

of his motorcade speeding by The assassination attempt, the fourth he has survived. added to tension across the entire Caucasus after Friday's carnage at a bombed market in neighbouring North Ossetia.

The Itar-Tass news agency said four of the President's bodyguards were injured by yesterday's bomb, planted in a sewer and timed to go off when

his way to his residence in Grozny. Shooting broke out after the blast, which blasted a 9-foot by 16-foot crater in the road and blew out windows in surrounding buildings

As usual, some presidential aides saw the "hand of the Russian special services" in the attack. Caucasians routinely blame the successors to the KGB for trying to destabilise

tween President Maskhadov and Russian politicians. The Chechen leader, frustrated by Moscow's unwillingness to grant his region independence. has said he lacks confidence in Yevgeny Primakov, the Prime Minister, and asked to see President Boris Yeltsin.

Relations between Moscow and the breakaway Muslim region are more tense now than

spokesman, Moviem Salamov, cause Chechen warlords, be- wondering whether militant died in the market blast. Most said "bandits" were trying to youd President Maskhadov's Chechens might be behind the were poor civilians who had interior ministry general

Islamic radicals have abducted dozens of Russian civilians and several foreigners, and · beheaded four telephone engineers from Britain and New Zealand. Only with difficulty is Moscow restraining itself from launching a war over the latest kidnapping this month; masked men drove on to Grozny airport and took General Gennady Shpigun off a plane for Moscow.

ethnic tension between the Orthodox Christian Ossetians and the Muslim Ingush, relatives of the Chechens. In the Second World War, Stalin deported the Ingush and transferred a piece

of their territory to North Ossetia, a decision that still rankles. day of mourning across Russia

Yesterday was declared a

Ossetian capital of Vladikaykaz

Another possibility is that the

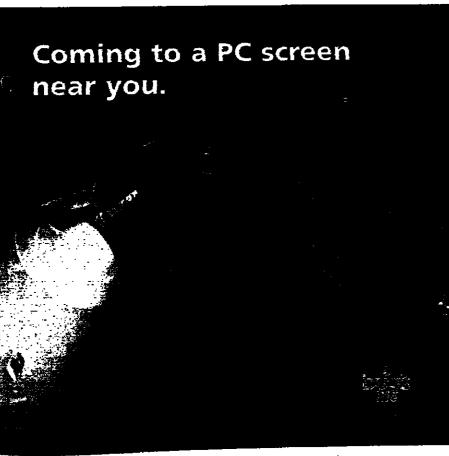
bomb was planted to provoke

in the North

has never been more fragile in the Caucasus, where those linking their future to Russia, albeit loosely, face Islamic fundamentalists wanting the region for

cruel attack

Allah, and where the old tradition of blood revenge lives on. Holiday



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Prodi leads race for Europe's top job

ROMANO PRODI, the former By KATHERINE BUTLER Italian prime minister, was emerging last night as the firm favourite for the presidency of the European Commission, after his candidacy was en-

dorsed by Spain. Although he has said he is unavailable, Wim Kok, the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, is also viewed as a serious challenger as the horse trading heats up before heads of government meet for the Berlin summit on Wednesday. Abel Matutes, the Foreign

Minister of Spain, said in Brussels: "Prodi ĥas demonstrated that he is competent and qualified to do the job." Spain's backing for Mr Prodi

in Brussels

confirms speculation that Jose Maria Aznar, the centre-right Spanish Prime Minister, would withhold his support from his compatriot Javier Solana, the Nato secretary-general, who was considered a frontrumer. France is hostile to the idea of appointing another Dutchman to a key EU position. Its candidate for the presidency of the European Central Bank lost out to the Dutchman Wim

One scenario is that Paris would agree to Mr Kok's appointment as Commission chief if Mr Dulsenberg relinquished

Duisenberg last year.

his post within two years. EU foreign ministers were meeting in Brussels last night to try to narrow divisions over whether an interim caretaker successor to the disgraced Commission president, Jacques Santer, should be found. Robin Cook the Foreign Secretary, called for a permanent president

to be appointed immediately

As the whistleblower Paul Van Buitenen warned of a torrent of fresh corruption evidence, Mr Cook put forward proposals for ending France's administrative stranglehold on the Commission. He said appointments and promotions should be based on merit rather than nationality.

In Brief

Finnish opposition to take over THE FINNISH opposition Centre Party looked likely to

return to power after narrowly beating the ruling Social Democrats and Conservatives in elections yesterday, according to preliminary results. Electoral commission officials said the Centre won 25.2 per cent of the vote. Prime Minister Paavo Lipponen's SDP got 23 per cent and the co-ruling Conservatives got 21.1 per cent.

Turkish pipeline hit on festival day AN EXPLOSION hit the Turkish section of an oil pipeline, carrying crude oil from Iraq to Turkey, during a Kurdish new year festival yesterday that is often a focus of separatist violence. Police said sabotage was suspected.

Taleban crackdown on celebration TALEBAN SOLDIERS in Kabul whipped people with steel wires yesterday for defying a ban on new ye celebrations. The centuries-old festival, based on the Persian calendar was outlawed in Afghanistan last year

'No secrets' from China

CHINA HAS had almost complete access to US nuclear weapons secrets over the past two decades, Newsweek reported yesterday, saying: "The penetration is total."

The extent of the damage is such that it "leaves an unsettling possibility: That this was done by American

A Taiwan-born nuclear scientist was dismissed from his iob at Los Alamos two weeks ago after failing a lie-detector test, but he has not been arrested, and FBI sources have indicated that they have no evidence to support charges.

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BRIEF

Brutality of Borneo's smiling killers

By RICHARD LLOYD PARRY in Sambas, Indonesian Borneo

EVEN FROM 50 miles away, it was obvious that something awful was happening in Sambas. Our driver had heard the rumours early in the morning. and refused to leave the hotel. In the town of Sinkawang, where we were staying, the shops were closed and shuttered up, although Sambas was more than an hour's drive away. People we met fell into two categories: those who would never be induced to go near the place, and those who could not get there fast enough.

The former were drivers, shopkeepers, the women working in the hotel - they stayed inside, or timidly went about their errands. The latter were all men - armed and dressed for war, piled into trucks, clinging to the roofs of minibuses, and waving at us as they drove by, shouting: "Sambas! Sam-bas!", and pointing up the road - the only road in this remote north-western corner of Indonesian Borneo.

There was almost no other normal traffic, and it thinned out completely the further north we drove. Just as on the previous day, there were fires burning in the abandoned villages, and 10 minutes from Sambas we could see great billows of smoke rising up a few

The town itself was deserted although a fire burnt in the market place. At a T-junction we came upon a massed group of Ambon, this is nothing to do men, perhaps from one of the trucks that had passed us earlier. They wore yellow and red bandannas and T-shirts, and carried spears, guns and machetes. They waved down our four-wheel-drive, and the morning's horrors began.

From the direction of the smoke, a man rode up on a motorcycle. His jacket and trousers were wet with blood, but when he saw us he spoke words of welcome. "We don't care about your race," he said. "We don't care about your religion. Christian, Muslim. Buddhist, Dayak, Malay, Chinese or Bugi - all are welcome here. We



iust don't want Madurese. All of the Madurese must leave." He held up an object threaded on to a piece of string around his neck. It was a human ear.

There are two things that make this conflict such a baffling and disturbing one, and the first and most striking is its brutal savagery. In the past week at least 73 people have been killed in this area, the Indonesian province of West Kalimantan. A few may have died in their burning houses, but most have been killed in cold blood with blade, spear or bullet. After death (one prays that it was afterwards) their bodies had been viciously mutilated.

But the second mystery is why all this is going on - for, to the unaccustomed foreign eye, there is little difference between the perpetrators of this horrifying violence and its

Unlike the conflict between Christians and Muslims still smouldering on the island of with religion, and it has no obvious political overtones. Apart from West Kalimantan's large ethnic Chinese population, its people have few obvious physical differences. Instead, this is a war about land and culture, and the enormous social and economic tensions that strain against one another beneath

the surface of this vast country. The victims are Muslim settlers from Madura, a dry island off the east coast of Java, whose people are famous for their tough and sometimes brutal code of honour. For decades they have migrated from their barren home to the lush forests



Tribesmen burning the home of a Madurese settler in the Indonesian province of Kalimantan in Borneo during renewed ethnic violence

of Borneo, and trouble has frequently followed. The island's other inhabitants accused them of thuggishness and the theft of land, although it is hard to know whether the grievance is genuine or whether the Madurese are another victim of ethnic scapegoating. Two years ago, as many as 3,000

Madurese were beheaded and

inland from here. Now the sen-

other ethnic groups the Malays, the Buginese from Sulawesi, and the Chinese. For all the brutality, this is

more than just a battle between young thugs. Over the weekend, I met teachers, civil servants and tourist guides, all of them actively in sympathy with the killings. The secucannibalised by Dayaks living rity forces are playing a role which is, at best, passive, at

timent has spread to Borneo's worst collusive. Yesterday we were waved through three military checkpoints manned by armed soldiers doing nothing to protect the Madurese in Sambas. But the territory is so vast, and their numbers so few. that there is probably very little that they can do.

The attack on Sambas involved at least 1,000 people. By the time we arrived the worst of it was over, and attention was

focused on the burning Madurese houses, which cast a fierce heat over the sandy road. Trucks were bringing in bottles for the attackers, who sat around, cheerily waving as we

Two of the Madurese had been killed, we were told, but the rest had escaped into the jungle. In the distance we could hear gunshots from the hunt-

ing parties sent in to track them down.

One laughing man produced a severed human arm and happily posed with it for photographs. You expect to feel afraid on such occasions but actually they are banal. The killers were smiling. pleased to see us and keen to show off their trophies. What do you say when a young man

fers you a lump of human

We drove back through the town market where a charred human femur lay on the road among the ambers of a fire. A Dayak man approached, holding a lump of what he said was human meat. He popped it into his mouth and chewed expressionlessly. I asked him the first thing that came into my head,

Gunfire as Malays kill 300,000 pigs

MALAYSIAN SOLDIERS firing By VINCENT THIAN shotguns and covered in plas- in Sungai Nipah tic overalls and face-masks slaughtered pigs yesterday in an all-out effort to control a virus believed to have killed more than 50 people.

The tranquillity of rural farms was shattered by the sound of gunfire and the squeals of frightened animals as soldiers exterminated pigs in villages worst affected by the outbreak of Japanese encephalitis. Health authorities bury the carcasses of the slain

The virus, which attacks the brain, causing high fever, vomiting and coma, is transmitted from pigs to humans by Culex mosquitoes, which thrive in swamps and open drains.

The operation, which began

late on Saturday, originally called for the destruction of 65,000 animals over the weekend. But only about 2,000 pigs were killed on the first day. according to newspaper reports from the state of Negri Sembilan, which is 100 kilometres (62 miles) southeast of the Malaysian capital, Kuala Lumpur

The killing got off to a slow used tractors and bulldozers to start because of rain and a shortage of bulldozers, Malaysia's health minister said.

Malaysia eventually plans to kill all 300,000 pigs that are living in the affected area, the national news agency Bernama

died in the area, which has a Police said that the few who re-mosquitoes breed. "Our aim is



Malaysian soldiers herd pigs together for slaughter in Sungai Nipah

since October: Nearly all the vicpig farms. No further deaths were reported yesterday.

More than 30 people have

population of 11,000, bringing mained in the prosperous pig-the nationwide death toll to 53 rearing district had been evacuated to enable soldiers and tims have lived or worked near police to begin the slaughter.

Hundreds of families have al-

Fire and rescue helicopters clattered over the villages on Saturday to dump 9,000 litres of ready abandoned their villages. insecticide on swamps where

to destroy the mosquito larvae in the canals and ponds," said Soh Chai Hock, the region's fire

The federal government ordered vaccinations for 300,000 people and 500,000 pigs across the country in an attempt to control the disease.

Poachers, weavers and a market sting

CITY LIFE DELHI

CHANDNI CHOWK is the most when their coats are at their historic but also the most hysterical corner of Delhi: abutting Shah Jahan's magnificent Red Fort, the main street sliced through by the British after the uprising of 1857 is today a maelstrom of dilapidated cycle rickshaws and trucks and taxis and porters and shoppers all fighting their way through the capital's

most teeming bazaar. Porters pad down the middle of the road with huge squashy bundles on their heads. Small schoolchildren in powder-blue uniforms travel crammed like battery hens into a wooden box hauled by a groaning cyclist. Fat ladies sally forth in rickshaws to buy jewels, their young daughters perched on the axle.

Under a black marble statue of Gandhi outside Delhi's vaguely rococo old town hall, a posse of plainclothes policemen sit sweating in a Hindustan Ambassador, waiting for the phone to ring. On the far side of this

whirlpool of traffic, on an upper floor, is a shop that sells shawis; pashmina and cashmere for the wealthy, coarser wool for the rest. Samples are displayed on the walls. But the most desirable item sold by this shop is neither displayed nor advertised. Shatoosh, which means

"king of wools" is the finest wool in the world. But its trade is illegal, because it is leading to the extinction of a Tibetan antelope, the chiru,

Chiru roam the vast spaces of the Tibetan plateau, Poachers shoot them in the winter, has a mobile phone: "Tell the

driver to bring the car." This thickest, then shear off the is the agreed signal. wool. The thread makes its It is 3.10pm. In the hot car,

way via Nepal to Kashmir, the only place where it is still legal, where highly skilled craftsmen weave it into shawls of extraordinary delicacy. In Delhi, although illegal, the trade is flourishing, and this shop is one of many that trade in it under the counter. Yesterday a young Japan-

ese woman visited the shop and said she wanted to buy a large number of shatoosh shawls, for which she would pay in dollars. The shopkeeper pointed out that she could buy them more safely and conveniently in Tokyo, and gave her the details of his agent there. Yes, she said, but there it will be twice the price. The shopkeeper agreed to bring several dozen shawls for her to look at the next day. The time agreed was 3pm.

Now it is exactly 3pm and Yoko Shimizu (not her real name) is back in the shop, crosslegged on the padded floor, and the colour has drained from her face and there is a tremor in her voice. Because she is not a bona fide customer but an undercover agent of the Japan Wildlife Conservation Society. Working in tandem with the Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSD, she has agreed to be the bait in this shatoosh trap.

The shawls are produced. several removed from their plastic wrappers. Anyone who has touched shatoosh can recognise it at once. This is the stuff. Yoko has no doubt. She tells her Indian escort, who

the phone rings. From this car and from a blue Mahindra Commando in front, officers from the police and the city's wildlife department and a senior representative of the WPSI uncoil themselves, fight their way through the rickshaws, climb a dark, steep staircase, and suddenly the small shawl shop is very full of people and very quiet.

ENEY MANNET RAYES

One of the shopkeepers hisses to Ms Shimizu: "You must leave immediately! You must leave immediately!" The man from the WPSI, who looks like anybody's kind uncle and is therefore a good man for the job, takes her arm tenderly and leads her out of the fray. Ninety-two shatooshshawls are counted out under the eyes of the police, who watch very keenly because each shawl has a street value of at least £500, and for even one to disappear would be a serious matter. When the paperwork is done, the shawls are packed into a box that is sealed, and they and the owner of the shop are taken away to the police station.

The shopkeeper will spend tonight in the station lock-up tomorrow he will be charged If WPSI is successful, bail will be refused and he will have a few more days in jail to contemplate the error of his ways

The case will then vanish into the labyrinth of the Indian legal system, its conclusion perhaps years in the future Saving the chiru is a long, slow and uncertain task.

PETER POPRAM

Short sees funding at work in India

CLARE SHORT, the Secretary of BY PETER POPHAM State for International Development, flies to Delhi today for a six-day visit to inspect how her department's money is being put to use

Under Labour, what used to be called Overseas Aid has been given a higher priority and a bigger budget, and India is a major beneficiary.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE

MARE ST. LONDON E8 4SA (Charity Ref. No. 231323). For all the happiness

mankind can gain is not in pleasure but rest from pain." John Dryden (1631-1700) Day after day, night after night you have helped us to provide rest from pain. May the happiness gained be yours as well this Easter and always.

Development aid to India deserves to be controversial. For one thing, the government of Atal Bihari Vajpayee seems to be bashful about the whole sa on the east coast. subject - the ideology of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party centres on self-

And why should a nation rich and sophisticated enough to produce nuclear weapons and the missile systems to deliver them deserve British charity? If India is demanding a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council, should not it teach its own children to read and to write?

India has, in fact, been making strides in that direction. But after 51 years as a free country, nearly half the population remains illiterate and, as illiteracy has a direct impact on population growth, it is arguably in the whole world's interest to get the poorest Indians reading and writing.

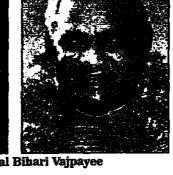
in Delhi, a city that is rapidly making a name as one of the most lawless in Asia (six murders reported on Saturday alone), Ms Short flies to Oris-

Orissa is one of the six states that the Department for International Development is backing new Unicef and Indian government programmes to improve sanitation, hygiene and water supply. A region of wild, natural

beauty and chronic underdevelopment, and where a quarter of the population are tribespeople, Orissa has recently seen an upsurge of violence between Hindu and Christian factions within tribal villages. Only last week, hundreds of Christian homes in one village were razed by a Hindu

Ms Short will also visit Andra Pradesh in the south, where the department is spending £46.5m on a programme to build thousands of new primary schools.
Under the leadership of the expect a warm welcome.





chief minister, Chandrababu Naidu, Andra Pradesh is rapidly becoming the most go-ahea state in the country: Ms Short's department is one of many international organisations, including the World Bank, pouring money into the state's coffers, to prove that Mr Naidu's mantra of education, tion does indeed work wonders. The British minister can

SATURDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE.

Draw date: 20/3/99. The winning numbers: 13, 17, 25, 29, 46, 49. Bonus number: 28. Total Sales: £61,516,275. Prize Fund: £27,682,323 (45% of ticket sales plus £4,410,472 Rollover amount).

CATEGORY	No. OF WINNERS	AMOUNT FOR EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TIER
Match 6 (Jackpot)	3	£4.474,239	£13.422,717
Match 5 plus bonus ball	16	£173.312	£2,772,992
Match 5	827	£2,095	£1,732,565
Match 4	51,605	£73	£3,767,165
Match 3	1.035.108	£10	£10,351,080
TOTALS	1,087.559		£32.046,519
otal Sales including instants and Wednesda	y Draw: £100,526,405.	Breakage (prizes	rounded down to nearnst £1): £46.27

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY



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Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Mallan group wants closer BAe ties THE ITALIAN engineering group Finneccanica is keen to deepen its ties with British Aerospace following the BAe-

GEC merger. Alberto Lina, the managing director, said in a newspaper interview yesterday that that the Italian group, which is to be privatised later this year, would like to see more defence activities transferred to its Anglo-Italian joint venture, Alenia-Marconi-Systems. The joint venture was set up originally with GEC before the BAe merger last year.

3i puts up £im for ice-cream

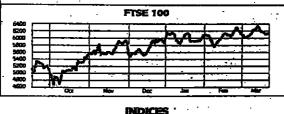


THE VENTURE capital group 3i has put up film to finance the building of a new production line for the ice-cream-maker La Glacerie. Pictured are (from left) Christopher Stent, finance director, La Glacerie; Angela Lane, 3i Southampton; Martin Dockett, managing director, La Glacerie.

Poor returns from entertainment

THE CONSULTANTS PriceWaterhouseCoopers claim there has been a dramatic erosion of shareholder value in the entertainment and media sector over fhe last three years. A survey of 30 of the world's top media and entertainment companies shows that while spending on acquisitions and investment rose by 30 per cent, return on capital fell from

STOCK MARKETS



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	FTSE All Share	2847.18	47.56	-1.64	2923.83	2143.53	2.736
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OTHER INDICATORS Index Circ Yrago Mest figs Close USK's de Yr ago

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SOURCE: BLOOMBERG www.bloomberg.com/uk

TOURIST RATES

Mexican (nuevo peso) Netherlands (guilders) 3.1711 Australia (\$) Austria (schillings) New Zealand (S) Belgium (francs) Norway (kroner)

Canada (\$) 0.8316 Cypros (pounds) 10.77 Denmark (kroner) <u>8.6309</u> <u> Finland (markka)</u> <u>9.4575</u> France (francs) 2.8290 Germany (marks) 464.37 Greece (drachma) 12,18 Hong Kong (S) 1,1324 ireland (punts) 61,94 ndian (rupees) 6.0542 2802 186.33 Japan (yen) Malaysia (ringgits) 5.934<u>5</u> Source: Thomas Cook

12,24 Portugal (escudos) <u> 287.30</u> Saudi Arabia (rials) 5.9341 2.6818 Singapore (S) 9.7460 South Africa (rands) Spain (pesclas) Sweden (kronor) 2.3157 Switzerland (francs) Thalland (bahts) 55.<u>91</u> 568561 Turkey (lirasi) Rates for indication purposes only

Mega-bids turn the Italian banks industry upside-down

TTALY'S BANKING sector was turned upside down last night after Milan bank UniCredito launched a \$16.4bn (£10bn) share swap offer for smaller rival Banca Commerciale Italana (BCI) and rivals San Paolo-IMI agreed an even bigger share swap deal with Banca di

The board of UniCredito announced the offer of eight UniCredito shares for every five BCI shares at a price 17 per cent above Friday's market close. The offer is conditional on acceptance by at least 50 per cent of BCI shareholders and the abolition of a clause that limits the voting rights of any BCI shareholder to 5 per cent.

By Frances Kennedy

The resulting colossus, which would be named Eurobanca, would have become Italy's biggest bank - and the fifth-largest in Europe in terms of assets, totalling 500 trillion lire (£175bn) – but for the fact that within hours of its announcement. San Paolo-IMI of Turin and Banca di Roma agreed their own merger, which would itself create a bank with assets of 555 trillion lire (£193bn).

If both mergers succeed, Italy will have two banks with the financial strength to compete in the euro zone.

a previous merger, said the cost savings that would result from a takeover of BCI would enable it to achieve a return on equity of 23 per cent by 2002. BCI was until last week in merger talks

with Banca di Roma. The main victim of what is being described as an earthquake in Italy's rigid banking system looks likely to be the ageing puppetmaster of Italian finance, Enrico Cuccia, 93. Mr Cuccia, the more-than-honorary president of Mediobanca, held intense consultations on Saturday at the bank's 16th-century Milan palazzo Milan "to decide on a last-ditch defence or

an honourable retreat". The two mergers would

mean that 16 per cent of the capital of Mediobanca would be in the hands of Eurobanca and 8 per cent in San Paolo-Banca di major industrial or financial Roma – nearly a quarter of its wealth would no longer be in friendly hands. This would at

vulnerable to the same companies and banks it has in the past influenced. The manoeuvres would also bring a greater foreign presence to the sector, Deutsche Bank, Commerzbank and Paribas in

best undermine Mediobanca's

autonomy, and at worst leave it

UniCredito-BCI, and ABN Amro and Banco di Santander in the San Paolo union.

Overseas institutions are unlikely to play the game Mr

Cuccia's way. For decades, this reclusive and brilliant man has had the last say in almost every operation on Italian soil.

Mr Cuccia's strategy when he founded Mediobanca was simple; he created alliances with the major families of Italian capitalism, from the Agnellis to the Pirellis, and helped them maintain their power, preferably without calling on share issues or bank loans

He did this through a subtle web of cross-shareholdings between companies and banks that were members of the exclusive Mediobanca club. At times of crisis all could be

and if one was in difficulty the others would help out. Critics sector.

Analysts say the introduction of the euro, deregulation and the trolled banks mean a more competitive environment is inevitable, but Mediobanca has failed to adapt its strategy. Mr Cuccia's close relationship with Lazard Frires and the Agnelli family - two key planets in the Mediobanca constellation have become strained. Indeed car maker Fiat, controlled by the Agnelli family, was instrumental in setting up the San

LVMH takes Gucci battle to court

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

THE STRUGGLE for control of Gucci, the Italian luxury goods group, is set to move to the courtroom today with French rival Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton (LVMH) determined to use all means to pursue its £3.1bn hostile bid.

LVMH is applying to the courts in Amsterdam, where Gucci is listed, to overturn a deal Gucci cut with "white knight" Francis Pinault on Friday. Mr Pinault's giant French speciality retail group, Pinault-Printemps Redoute (PPR), paid \$3bn (£1.85bn) for 40 per cent of Gucci.

Bernard Arnault, h LVMH, the world's largest luxury goods maker, says he will go to court to suspend Gucci's entire supervisory board and appoint an independent person to take charge of the company if his hid is not accepted.

Mr Arnault also wants to freeze Gracei's deal with PPR. which he claims dilutes existing shareholdings in Gucci and hands control to PPR without PPR paying a premium, against the interests of existing

On Friday PPR agreed to suspect it may change its time



pay \$75 each for 39 million new Gucci shares. The deal was 7 per cent above the market price, and diluted LVMH's holding in Gucci to 22 per cent from 34.4 per cent.

LVMH responded on Friday by saving it would top PPR's bid. It is thought LVMH's offer is worth around \$85 a share.

Gucci's supervisory board met in Amsterdam vesterday to discuss the bid battle. It had dismissed LVMH's approaches before last week, but analysts

now Mr Arnault has been forced into a full bid.

In particular, if Gucci accepts the bid it will trigger "golden parachutes" worth up to \$100m for Gucci's top people. The company's chief executive, Domenico De Sole, and his chief designer Tom Ford are set to receive at least \$20m each. say industry sources, although under Italian law their contracts are shrouded in secrecy.

Gucci's profits rose by 62 per cent in the fourth quarter of last is "exactly the amount asked for

year. Gucci refused to comment on the battle last night. A spokesman for LVMH said

Gucci had no choice but to accept its bid, as it represented "by far the best option for shareholders. Friday's deal gives PPR control with no premium to shareholders, and it was done without consulting shareholders".

Mr Arnault has said before that he is "sure" his bid to buy The prize is a juicy one. all of Gucci will succeed because the price he is offering

by De Sole when we discussed the hypothesis," according to the Italian business newspaper Il Sole/24 Ore.

LVMH said its offer only stands if new Gucci shares that have been issued to PPR are cancelled. LVMH also said its offer hinges on Mr Pinault abandoning plans to transfer his Sanofi beauty unit to Gucci.

For Gucci, the PPR alliance provides the cash to pay for its expansion plans and a partner that it does not regard as a competitor

Liffe inquiry finds five traders guilty

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

LONDON'S FINANCIAL futures exchange, Liffe, has found five futures traders guilty of a form of insider dealing after a threeyear investigation by its disciplinary panel. All five are set to receive hig fines, and two face life bans from working in the City.

The traders, who worked for Refco Overseas, were engaged in a form of "front running". This involved taking large orders from clients and then trading on that information on their own account before executing the deal.

Yesterday Liffe said it could not comment. It is understood that, while the disciplinary panel has concluded its investigation there is still a possibility that the five involved will appeal against

The panel has told Malcolm Duke and Nick English, who left Refco Overseas several months ago, that it intends to fine them £100,000 each. The pair have been told they face a life ban business in the UK. Refco's for-

from carrying out investment mer head of overseas trading. Paul Hunt, faces a £60,000 fine and a one-year City ban. Greg Bryce and Mark Wilkinson each face fines of £10,000. The latter three have all left

the company in the past few weeks. It is understood the parting was "amicable".

Observers suspect the emergence of this "front running" scandal may have been a key fac tor in persuading Liffe to switch from open-outcry to screenbased electronic trading. The German electronic exchange. Eurex, has already posched the lucrative Bund futures market from London, prompting Liffe to ditch the traders in their brightly-coloured jackets in favour of automatic systems. Evidence that the open-outcry system was so easily corrupted could only have hastened the switch.

Liffe has put its two-acre Spitalfields site up for sale after ditching plans for a headquarters there with a new, larger openoutcry floor. It will remain in its Cannon Street building.

The move to screen trading means Liffe now sees the Spi talfields site, bought three years ago for £40m, as something of a milistone. However, it hopes to

M&S plans sale-and-leaseback deals on 40 high street stores

MARKS & SPENCER, the troubled stores group, is planning to sell some of its high street shops for around £250 million and double its advertising spend to over £20m a year in an attempt to turn round plummeting sales.

The recently installed chief executive, Peter Salsbury, is in the middle of a complete strategic review of M&S, and a saleand-leaseback scheme to raise £250m from the sale of 40 high street sites is one of the review's most popular ides so far. Once completed, the review

will be passed to the M&S board in July. Another initiative to reverse the company's fall in revenues, the appointment of

BA YOHN MITTCOCK

marketing director James Benfield is already bearing fruit. Mr Benfield has decided to double the group's advertising spend from its present £10m-£12m. A spokeswoman for M&S admitted yesterday that the

group had been "too English and reserved" in the past. "But we've learnt our lesson," she said. "We've seen the need to get out there and blow our own trumpet. The public need to know why they should

spend money with us rather than with anyone else." In the past M&S has concentrated on advertising store openings and extensions, along

Peter Salsbury: In the

with print media and TV ads in

leaseback schemes to other retailers like Tesco and Sainsbury's, but now it has realised

middle of strategic review

the run-up to Christmas. This will now be extended to ads in TV radio the print media and in- back the stores. Stores penstore promotions, said the

money will be spent is yet to be The property move will raise most eyebrows in the City. M&S has traditionally left sale-and-

the potential value of its 290 stores, which mainly inhabit prime high street sites. It also has 22 stores inside large shopping centres. Under the plan, M&S would sell these stores to institution-

Land Land Securities and the Prudential. It would then lease cilled in for sale include those

spokeswoman, Exactly how the in Bath, Oxford, Belfast and York, as well as the two flagship London stores at either end of Oxford Street.

The M&S spokeswoman admitted that urgent action is needed. The stra egic review is looking at every way we run ourselves, our structures, our supplier base and so on. Everything is up for discussion."

The group is bracing itself for a gruelling results announce ment in May, when it is expected to reveal one of its worst-ever annual falls in

M&S shares have recovered from their five-year low of close of business on Friday.

333.5p in January to 371p at | make a £10m profit by selling the

Brown 'can afford election tax cut to 20p'

GORDON BROWN can afford By DIANE COYLE to cut the basic rate of income Economics Editor out today. The Government's finances are in good enough shape for the Chancellor to reduce tax by another 2p in time for the election, following the surprise to cut in the Budget earlier this month, it says.

Separately, consumer confi-

dence had risen for the third

tax-cutting Budget, according

there were more optimists than pessimists, with a positive balance of 1 per cent. "The improvement in senti-

ment ... should not be seen as post-income tax cut euphoria, rather part of a gradual but steady improvement in consumer confidence," according to the survey.

month running even before the It found 41 per cent of high to the monthly survey by GfK. income households (with more For the first time since June than £25,000 a year) reported an

On the other hand, only 7 per take no account of the fact that in 1999, but 1.4 per cent actual cent of the lowest income group (£7,000 or less) said the same. and 37 per cent had seen their growth. It estimates that con-

Today's report from the Cen-

tre for Economics and Business Research, a consultancy, arunderstated. gues that recent growth in tax revenues and three years of es the level of GDP by 3.2 per tough public spending control cent. As they are expanding have put the public sector's fi- rapidly, they will also boost nances in a strong starting position. In addition, it says

GDP figures under-record the economy's actual rate of personal finances deteriorate. struction, the output of intangibles such as software and the "underground" economy are

Taking account of these raisgrowth by more than official figrevenues will stay buoyant be CEBR is predicting 0.7 per money to announce cuts in soft landing.

improvement in their finances. cause the official predictions cent growth of measured GDP taxes in both the 2000 and 2001 This compares with the

> Treasury's forecast of a 1-1.5 per cent rise in (measured) GDP this year. Douglas McWilliams, chief executive of the CEBR, said:

> "The economic prospects for the UK are fairly rosy." He added: "Because of this and the improved trend in public finances, the Chancellor

Budgets. A Spring 2001 election could be on the cards."

Income tax cuts would leave the Chancellor able to meet both his fiscal rules, Mr McWilliams said. These say that the Government's current spending should balance over the cycle, and that the ratio of government debt to national in-

come must be sustainable. However, the favourable outlook for the UK depends on the ures are likely to show. The looks as if he will have the US economy gliding in to a

News Analysis: Talk of a Chase-Merrill deal has been dismissed. But insiders await the next move

The Wall Street banks are playing poker and a merger is on the cards

Financial Editor

IF THERE is one thing Wall Street investment bankers love to talk about it is deals. These days they seem to be spending almost as much time talking about mergers between themselves as they are about those between clients. "Everyone is talking to everyone," said one investment banker yesterday.

Talk of a deal in the offing between Chase Manhattan and Merrill Lynch was given fresh impetus last week by advance publicity for an article from Forbes, the American business magazine, only to be killed off by none other than David Komansky, the chief executive officer of Merrill Lynch, who told a regular pre-results briefing of Wall Street stock analysts on Friday that the firm regularly examines merger proposals and has not seen anything recently that "creates

Most read that as a straightforward denial. But the more sonhisticated Wall Street insiders reckon that may not be of their own pensions money the end of the story. One said: into LTCM. "These guys are consummate poker players."

It is no secret on Wall Street that Chase, which at one time has been linked with practically every investment bank on the Street, not to mention a couple of the Europeans too, is still thirsting for a deal. Insiders say that Chase went to Merrill last summer before the bail-out of the now infamous hedge fund Long-Term Capital Management. The débácle not only



merger proposal that "creates value"

it declared its first loss-making

quarter this decade - but Mer-

rill's senior executives, it

emerged, had ploughed some

could run Chase's entire whole-

sale corporate banking busi-

ness. Not surprisingly Chase's

response was a polite no. They

were incredibly arrogant,"

complains one investment

banker who knew that situation

that Chase may have got the

sense that it is now time for Mer-

rill to eat some humble pie.

investment bankers reckon

Sources say that Merrill at

the time said OK - provided it rill has been left behind.



Merrill needs to do something

to recover momentum after last

autumn's mauling. Talk in the

bond markets is that while Gold-

man's and Deutsche's fixed in-

come desks have been coining

it in during the first quarter, Mer-

Michael Marks, the former

head of Smith New Court and

now head of Merrill's European

operations, who says that the

firm "is delighted by its per-

formance" in the first quarter.

while Morgan Stanley and

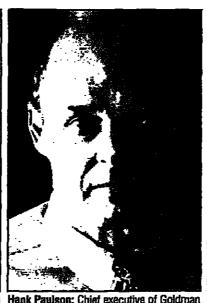
Goldman have also raked it in

on the merger and acquisition

front over the past few months,

Rivals say, nevertheless, that

Such talk is dismissed by



David Kemansky: The Mertil Lynch chief executive officer says the firm has not seen a has reportedly been around the top three

Bachs, where executive of Goldman Philip Purcell: Chief executive of Morgan
ecutive officer says the firm has not seen a has reportedly been around the top three

Bachs, where executives have talked about Stanley, another bulge-bracket name which bulge-bracket firms offering sweeteners a merger as part of the rationale for floating has been linked with Chase Manhattan



hind, Merrill also sustained anof both banks swap gossip, have been abuzz with stories, the other hit the other week when Tom Gahan, head of its lucramost intriguing of which talks of proposals for merging Merrill's tive leverage finance business, quit to join rival Deutsche and Chase's investment bank-

> commercial bank The guys at Chase, for their part, feel that Merrill is not the only game in town. Senior partners at Goldman Sachs, which is limbering up to go public over the next six weeks, have talked openly about a merger as part of the rationale for ditching their 130-year-old partnership status. Some have discussed in partners' meetings a what-if scenario where a deal between Chase and Morgan Stanley

ing operations, which would be

spun out of the core retail and

could be gate-crashed by Goldman with a sweeter stock of-

Walter Shipley, Chase's chairman and chief executive, has reportedly been around the top three bulge-bracket firms offering the chief executive officer's job as a sweetener to get

one of them to bite. Up to now, the assumption has been that the consolidation between the investment banks is very much a second tier affair. Deals like the \$10bn takeover of Bankers Trust by Deutsche or the SG Paribas deal take out some capacity at the margin, but the top three have been able to glide along

about, say those who know the bank well from inside, is that its top brass have already decided there is no point making a play for a second-tier investment bank, "We could have looked at

an Alex, Brown or a PaineWeb-

ber, but that kind of deal does

not really get you anywhere."

said one well-placed source. There is a sense out there that investment bankers are making hay while the sun shines and the Dow soars, but if the Dow slides and business dries up, some of those who have been busily hiring in anticipation of good times continuing to roll are going to be

left exposed.

Both Lehman and Donaldson Lufkin Jenrette have been frantically hiring teams in an effort to build a strong European footbold. Some see the recent outbreak of hostile deals like the BNP bid for Societé Général and Paribas or Olivetti's move on Telecom Italia as a sign that Anglo-Saxon capitalism is breaking out in Europe and that demand for Anglo-Saxon-style investment banking expertise

is about to take off. The bulge-bracket big three agree that Europe is the next battleground but are determined to get there first. Goldmans. too, has made little secret of its desire to use some of its cash pile to go on a hiring spree and acquire some more bulk. They will fight tooth and nail to ensure that the oligopoly that dominates Wall Street will emerge triumphant in Europe too. If the price is a merger between the big five, no doubt they will pay that too.

raising the probability of future

some analysts to start watch-

ing prices again is oil. One of

the key factors sustaining

America's eight-year expan-

sion has been low prices of

commodities, and especially

energy. Though few oil analysts

see the latest moves by key pro-

ducers to revitalise produc-

tion discipline as having a

lasting effect or fundamental-

fact that the price of oil has

started to rise after so long in

the doldrums was already

sparking some nerves on Wall

Street last week. It was, after

all, unlikely to stay at 25-year

ments, by themselves, is

enough to put a big dent in the

longest recovery in American

history. It is really a question

None of these develop-

lows for ever.

solid underpinning, the mere

The third factor leading

wage increases".

IN BRIEF

Sainsbury in pension switch

J SAINSBURY Pension Fund has switched another £300m of its assets from Mercury Asset Management (MAM) to the tracking fund manager Hermes Liberty Investment Management. doubling the amount it has with Hermes. Last August Hermes won £300m of business from the Sainsbury

Geof Pearson, pensions manager at J Sainsbury Pension Fund, said: "We appointed Hermes Liberty last year on the basis that they offer a tracking accuracy that is second to none, together with a fixed fee, which we believe is the most appropriate way of charging for a passive

Bakery deal

ONE OF the country's leading suppliers of cakes and confectionery to the retail trade, off plc (formerly Northumberland Fine Foods), has bought a Walesbased baking and distribution business which went into administration before Christmas.

The Evans Group and Hafren Wholesale were sold by administrators from PricewaterhouseCoopers to nff for £2,105,000.

The businesses are based in Aberystwyth and Haverfordwest and make speciality breads, including Ciabatta Herb Sundried Tomato and Cheese Bread. as well as more traditional products, such as doughnouts.

Henry Roberts, chief executive of nff (pictured). said the two businesses had been overcapitalised but were fundamentally sound. They had a turnover of £8.4m last year nif sells to both the large retail chains and to corner shops.

Brand for Britain



OVER HALF of UK businesses believe a "corporate style" brand is needed for Britain to gain the recognition it deserves for innovation and to increase its competitive

According to a new survey produced by the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), in association with Marketing magazine, 45 per cent of those businesses polled believe that it is the British identity that helps position British businesses as

competitive and strong. However, 44 per cent of those who do think that a corporate brand would benefit Britain are unwilling to pay a business levy to promote the UK as a business location. More than 70 per cent are not willing to

huge hole in the proposed

EU withholding tax on bond

income by removing \$3bn of

■ The Office of Fair Trading

is preparing to refer Nation-

al Power's £180m planned

acquistion of the Midlands

Electricity supply operation to

the Monopolies and Mergers

Testing time lies ahead in divining the Dow

Mr Komansky's denials have

been ambiguous, to say the

least. "T feel strongly that we are

not paid as a management

team, we're paid to create

value," he said to analysts last

Friday. According to analysts

who attended the briefing, he

said the top management

takes a look every quarter at

every merger proposition and

had recently gone through the

Over the past few days, the

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton re- By ANDREW MARSHALL portedly delayed his press in Washington conference last week to try to coincide with it. On the New York Stock Exchange, they were handing out baseball caps to celebrate it before it even er manufacturers, is having a dued, consumer expenditure one that saw a rate rise as happened. It has become a subject of obsession in the has responded accordingly: it media, like baseball's momentous home run records last year So can the Dow Jones index finally crack 10,000 this week, and stay there?

he glass ceiling this week.

ace for records and more like : time for pause. The market was held back

main stocks in the index and a pillar of the technology sector. IBM, like many other computweak first quarter and its stock barrelling along at a rate of is down since the beginning of the year, as is Compaq. The market may well power

ahead without them, but it will leave plenty of other stocks be-After running up to the top hind, too. The small and medi-figures, and the Federal Reif the hill repeatedly last week um capitalisation stocks have 'serve's Open Market Commitnd then coming back down had a dodgy first quarter: the tee does not meet until the 30th. had to consider was whether gain, the odds are that the US Russell 2000 index of smaller But while there may be abtock market will at last break companies is down 6 per cent solutely nothing on the horizon But in the longer term, there and other broader market fact that most stocks are lagre some gathering clouds that measures are also down. As beging behind the large capitalinake that achievement look fore last year's stock market ess like the beginning of a new mini-crash, the market as a the market is not in a robust Dow Jones. The Dow has taken contin-

from closing above 10,000 at the ued strength from the re- may well get more difficult in end of last week by some weak markable durability of the US the coming weeks, however orecasts for IBM, one of the recovery, and it is true that many baseball hats the New fit with the Fed's own appar-

there is nothing to dent that at York Stock Exchange throws the moment. The US trade out this week. The first lies in deficit figures last week showed America hitting another record, but growth is still strong, inflation very subabout 5 per cent in real terms. and there seems little to get in be pricing in a rise in the Fedthe way of a further rise in eq-

This week presents no particularly important economic Greenspan indicated in his tessince the beginning of the year, now to spook the markets, the sation issues indicates that whole looks weaker than the frame of mind. And there are some pressing reasons to consider that the pace of expansion

the Fed, which has been quietly hinting for some time that it was switching from a negative view of the economy towards more likely than a cut. Financial markets seem to

eral Funds rate from 4.75 per cent to 5 per cent by the summer. The Fed Chairman Alan timony to Congress earlier this year that one key point the Fed its rate reductions last year had been precipitate. Though there is little sign so far of inflation breaking through, it would seem that he, at least, thinks they may have been: if there is a further crisis in international markets, triggered by a default in Romania for instance, it may be that the Fed would not, this time, come through.

Expectations of higher rates



The Fed Chairman, Alan Greenspan, may yet take the view that interest rate cuts had been too precipitate

ently rising concern about the tricts continued to experience risk of wage rises, which came through as the strongest theme of its Beige Book, the survey of local conditions at the regional Fed districts.

Finding qualified workers has become more difficult in several districts, and reports of faster wage increases were more widespread than in recent months, said the report, released last week. "Employers in the Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, and Dallas dis-

difficulty finding qualified workers. Markets for retail labour remained tight across much of the nation, especially in the New York and Kansas City districts, where finding even entry-level workers was said to be difficult."

There is a boom in temp agencies, and the report noted that in the Mid-West and the fell back again. South, "temporary help firms were unable to meet their the chance to show what it is clients' demand for workers, made of

of psychology: do financial markets believe that the future is sufficiently rosy to justify a five-figure record in the Dow Last week, each time it went through the magic number, it

This week, the market has

pay more than £500. What The Papers Said

which is more in touch with Eurobonds from its scope.

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■ Mohammed Al-Fayed has

CLASSIFIED

Legal Notices NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR

APPLICATION FOR THE PROVISIONAL GRANT OF A NEW OFF LICENCE THE GRANT OF AN ON-LICENCE To: The Clerk to the Licensing Justices for the Licensing district of South Re: 56 Haymarket, London SWI To: All Whom it May concern To: All Whom it May concern We Velayotapilisi Kumazahasan of 318 Fullerd Avenue, Chynal, Hond, Essex (CS 05A, Arumagam Varsananhar of 136 Kondon Road, Wembley, Midda HA9 7HC, Haji Kassanali Karel of 56 Bosahasif, London XII 38X and Swapakasam Thillininadesan Autonungan of 98 Fembasik Avenue, Wembley, Midda HA0 ZTS and having carried on the rade or business during the past six mostits, of Manager, Assistant Manager, Poppiesor and Operations Manager respectively HEREBY CRVE YOU NOTICE that it is our intention to apply as the Licensian Sensition of South Westmister to be held at Hossieiny Road Magistates Coust, 70 Horselsey Road, London SVIP ZAX on Thursday be 8th day of April 1999 at 1030 am for the Powisional of south Vesal, London SVIP ZAX on Thursday lead to the or a labelion of License autonomics of the Powisional Candon SVIP ZAX on Thursday be 8th day of April 1999 at 1030 am for the Powisional Candon SVIP 2 AX on Thursday lead, London SVIP ZAX on Thursday be 8th day of April 1999 at 1030 am for the Powisional Candon Silver of all learner and the license autonomic license To: The Commissioner of the 10: the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police To: The Director of Environmental Services City of Westminster Council To: The Chief Fire Officer of Par London Fire & Civil Defence Ambority

Annhority
We, DAVID ST. JOHN POTTER of Whithead Hogshead Pub Company, The Hencelean, Honghrand Pub Company, The Hencelean, Honghrand Hogshead, Life St. Baving during the past six months carried on the trade or calling of Area Manager and MICHAEL ANDREW PHILLIPS of House Marchael, London, WCZH 7BG having during the past six morths carried on the trade or calling of House Manager HREBY GVP. NOTICE that it is our intention to apply at the Transfer Sessions for the said Licensing District to be held at The Magistrates' Court, 70 Horseferry Road, London on the 8th say of April next for the grant to us of a justices' license and the series of the series of the grant to us of a justices' license and the series of for the Provisional Grant to at of a leatinest Licence authorising us to sell by retail intensicating liquic of all descriptions for consumption OFF the premises shade on the ground floor of 56 Hayerarket, London SWI and in be known as 'Lord's Food and Wire' of which premises The Breence Hill Group of 1 Portland Place, London WIN 3AA & the country. Dated this 17th day of March 1999 SWEPSTONE WALSH. 9 Lincale's lim Fields, London WCAA 18P. Solictons and authorised Agents for the Applicants. next for the grant to us of a justices. Licence authorising us to sell by retain intoxicating liquid of all descriptions (or consumption either on or off the premises at 3-5 Liele Street, Leicester than the Licente 13 of the street.

premises at 3-5 Use street, unamed square, London, WC2H 78G and to be lonown as HOGSHEAD of which premises Whitbread & Co of The AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE tha

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that open grant of the above on Licence we will surrender the existing On Licence at 3-5 Liste Street, Leicester Square, London and known as HOGS-HAD.

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Gemini - Mercury the ruling planet gives the Gemini ti

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Railtrack will this week unveil its most ambitious invest-Voice personals ment strategy ever with a Voice Personals^e appears each week in The Independen Saturday and in The Independent on Sunday

A ROUND-UP OF SUNDAY BUSINESS STORIES £2bn package to update was Chancellor of the Exche-

THE INDEPENDENT Britain's railways. It is seeking quer. But he wants a Monetary to placate Government critics Policy Committee (MPC) with a raft of improvements to Almost half the country's 22,500 independent financial track, stations and services.

advisers (IFAs) could be out of work within three years as a Ford Motor Company is beresult of the Government's lieved to have joined the bidplans for new low cost pending for RAC Motoring sions. The stark conclusion Services, the car breakdown business owned by the memcomes from a report by consultants Origo and KPMG bers of the Royal Automobile Club. Ford has contacted Dreswhich was prepared for 19 of the country's biggest life indner Kleinwort Benson, the insurers and leaked last week. vestment bank advising othe RAC on whether it should float

or sell the sevices arm.

The Observer

ernment estimates, and will

drive many middle-sized busi-

nesses into receivership.

BSkyB's £623m bid for Manchester United will be waved through by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTD) in the next couple of weeks, although a number of stringent conditions will be attached. The satellite company will be excluded when the Premier League resumes negotiations over television rights once BSkyB's exclusive contract runs out in 2001

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Kenneth Clarke has come out in favour of Bank of England independence, which he

the "real world" and has a wider remit. SUNDAY & BUSINESS

■ Chancellor Gordon Brown

intervened at the last minute to block Stephen Byers's offer of £180m to save Rover's Longbridge plant in Birmingham. The Chancellor wanted the DTI to go in with a lower offer of aid to Rover's German owner BMW in order to gain a better negotiating

■ Shares in Quantum, the Treasury that they face extra bills of up to £15m a year as a flaship macro hedge fund run by George Soros, have result of the energy tax anslumped to a discount follownounced in the Budget. Business groups fear that the tax ing a disastrous start to the year in which the fund has lost will raise more than the Gov-

The Sunday Telegraph

16 per cent after a series of

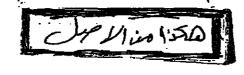
■ The Government is working steadfastly opposed when he on plans which could blow a a supplier.

Commission. The reference would be the latest in a series of blows to the beleaguered generator, and would renew speculation that National Power will fall prey to a bid.

The Mail

put Harrods up for sale for about £1.5bn. Mr Fayed offered to sell the landmark London department store to Louis Vuitton Moet Hennessy, the French luxury goods group, earlier this month.

■ Rentokil, headed by the CBI chief Sir Clive Thompson, has been criticised by a judge for "vexatious" conduct over its late payment to



Fears of hard landing start to recede

WHEN the present Government took office two years ago, the economy was in the midst of an intense consumer-led boom, and the the key issue for the new Chancellor was whether he could control this boom without inducing a hard landing, along with a sharp increase in unemployment. Past history was not encouraging in this regard – without exception, all previous consumer booms of this type in the post-war period had been followed by a period of negative growth in real GDP usually accompanied by new peaks in unemployment.

This time last year, there was still a strong possibility that past pat-terns might be repeated. Although many cyclical indicators - such as the financial condition of both consumers and companies - were performing much better than in previous cycles, it was an open question whether the considerable tightening in macro-economic policy necessary to control inflation would or would not result in a hard

By the middle of 1998, surveys of business opinion, which had usually proven to be extremely reliable leading indicators for GDP growth, had moved into the extremely depressed territory normally consistent with an outright hard landing. Exports were suffering from a seriously overvalued exchange rate, inventories were rising uncomfortably fast, and consumer confi-



GAVYN **DAVIES**

There is still scope for the Bank to ease monetary policy further in order to hit the inflation target

dence was beginning to decline, albeit from extremely high levels. In the spring of 1999, however, there now seems to be a rising prob-

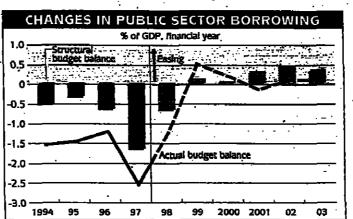
ability that the Treasury's economic forecasts will prove broadly correct, implying that real GDP will fall only moderately below trend during the downswing phase of the economic cycle. Consumer confidence has started to recover. primarily reflecting the monetary policy easing and the continuing healthy performance of the labour market. Equally importantly, there has been some revival in business confidence, though this remains worryingly depressed.

The Government has maintained its forecasts for real GDP growth unchanged at 1-1.5 per cent for 1999, and although this remains above the consensus of independent forecasters, there have lately been some indications that the outside consensus is moving upwards towards the Government's projection. The chance of an umpleasant hard landing, while certainly not remote, therefore seems to have receded in recent months.

Why has this happened? The following factors have clearly been important. First, the mix between fiscal and monetary policy has been quite skilfully handled by both the Treasury and the Bank of England. When the Bank was given operational independence in May 1997, many commentators argued that this would lead to problems by separating the two levers of macroeconomic policy into competing

It was further alleged by a majority of observers that the new Chancellor was failing to tighten fiscal policy sufficiently, thereby placing too much of the onus for policy htening at the door of the Bank.

As recently as 12 months ago surprising as this may now seem there were strong pressures on the Chancellor to raise the burden of consumer taxation much more-significantly than he actually chose to do. We read much about "one club golfing", with the implication being



tightened fiscal policy much more aggressively in the first two years its term of office.

In point of fact, however, the Chancellor had embarked upon one of the most significant periods of fiscal tightening in the post-war period. Examining evidence in the 1999 Red Book, it is now clear that the cyclically adjusted budget deficit will have tightened by around 3 per cent of GDP in the first two years of the Brown chancellorship. According to the Red Book, this tightening has come roughly evenly from a reduction in public expenditure as a percentage

of GDP and from a rise in tax This tightening has had several beneficial effects on the economy-

that the Government should have most notably, it has placed the Government's finances in a clearly sustainable medium-term position. This has helped long-term interest rates to remain subdued, even while the Bank of England was tightening monetary policy, and of course it has also reduced the extent of monetary tightening needed to hit the inflation target. Finally,

it left both the Bank and the Trea-

sury in a position to ease macro-

economic policy sharply if needed to support economic growth. The second factor which has been crucial in steering the economy away from a hard landing has been the behaviour of the labour market. In particular, the average earnings figures show that wage inflation started to decline around the middle of last year, despite the fact

substantially below levels which had previously been consistent with stable inflation. For reasons which we do not yet fully understand, it seems that there may have been a structural improvement in labour market conditions, implying that the equilibrium or sustainable level of unemployment may have been

permanently reduced If this proves to be the case, the medium-term relationship between the average level of unemployment and average inflation will be much more favourable than it has been in the past. In any case, the early re- cal tightening of around 0-0.5 per duction in wage inflation pressure has been crucial in allowing the Bank of England to implement a 200 basis points easing in monetary policy in the last six months, and this in turn has been the most signifi-

a hard landing. Where do we go from here? On the Goldman Sachs forecast for real GDP growth, which is slightly more subdued than than that of the Treasury, price inflation would continue to drop on a trend basis over the basis points will be forthcoming in next 18 months, and on unchanged policy it would probably be more broadly within 1 percentage point than 1 percentage point below the -of its central target. Such an easgovernment's 2.5 per cent inflation ing in monetary policy is of course

cant factor in reducing the risk of

target in the first part of next year. Governor might have to write a letter to the Chancellor explaining rebound quite strongly during the why the inflation target has been year 2000.

that the unemployment rate was missed on the low side in about 12 months' time. This clearly means that macroeconomic policy can be eased further to avoid this potential outcome

> Although the 1999 Budget measures themselves, taken in isolation introduced a moderate reduction in net taxation, it is misleading to conclude from this that the fiscal stance will ease in 1999-2000. In fact, because of earlier announcements of delayed increases in taxation, and because of surprising reductions in social security expenditure, the Treasury intends to implement a fiscent of GDP in the coming fiscal year. Thus, while the fiscal stance will be less stringent than it has been in the last two years, it will not be supportive of growth in domestic demand in the coming year.

The implication of this argument, therefore, is that there is still scope for the Bank of England to ease monetary policy further in order to hit the inflation target. Goldman Sachs assumes that a further reduction in base rates of 100 the next 12 months to keep inflation rget in the first part of next year. likely to improve the prospects of Thus, if policy is not changed, the achieving a soft landing this year, with GDP growth looking likely to

A group including Weir Engineering Services of Glasgow has won an £8m contract to refurbish two Scottish stations for Scottish Hydro-Electric, including refurbishing Francis turbines similar to that pictured above

Scoot.com deal |Opec ministers will make dialling easier

SCOOTCOM, the former Talking By ANDREW GARFIELD Pages, will today announce a deal with Energis, the tele-coms group, which will enable customers to be put through to the desired business straight away without having to hang up and dial again.

The deal will also enable Scoot to charge companies directly each time a customer accesses their phone number through its database. Analysts say the deal could be worth an extra £21m a year in revenue for

The level of the charge will depend on the value of business being generated: estate agents. for example, will be charged more per "hit" than, say, plumbers, to reflect the fact that each inquiry is potentially more

Robert Bonnier, Scoot's chief executive, said that the attraction for business subscribers is that they will able to see directly which users are coming to them through Scoot. Ultimately, they will see the amount they pay vary according to whether it is genuinely generating

"The introduction of the Scoot Connect product is an important step towards facilitating a direct transaction between Scoot users and Scoot ousiness subscribers," said Mr

Scoot estimates that up to 40 per cent of people calling its inoury services would opt to be out straight through.

Later on, it is intended to change the charging structure. The one-off fee to business subscribers will be eased out and a higher proportion of what they pay will be on the basis of business generated through inquiries via Scoot.

As part of the deal, Energis will also supply Scoot with telecoms service, while business subscribers will be able to phone using Energis's network at lower cost. Scoot hopes that ultimately its product will be able to be bundled with other services such as mobile phones and computers. Scoot is quoted on both the

London Stock Exchange and

meet to slash oil production

MINISTERS FROM the top oil producing countries began arriving in Vienna yesterday for a high-level Opec meeting tomorrow, which is expected to rubber-stamp a deal to slash oil output and end the two-year skump in the oil price.

The meeting follows the agreement thrashed out by five oil ministers in The Hague on March 12, under which the 10 Opec members will cut production by 1.7 million barrels per day from next month. That corresponds to around 2.7 per

cent of global output of crude. Gulf officials were quoted yesterday on arrival in Vienna saving that the deal would result in Brent crude, the benchmark oil price, rising from its current level of around \$13.45 a barrel to between \$17 and \$19

Prices have already risen by around 40 per cent from their December lows in anticipation

by the third quarter of this

of further output cuts. The deal struck earlier this month at the instigation of Saudi Arabia was endorsed by Nasdao, the American exchange. I three more states - Kuwait, the

BY ANDREW GARFIELD

United Arab Emirates and Qatar -- at a meeting in Abu Dhabi yesterday. The Kuwaiti oil minister, Sheikh Saud Nasser al-Sabah, said after the meeting: "We are finished - it is all done."

What made the Hague deal possible was a decision by Saudi Arabia and Iran to bury the hatchet. Officials said that progress had been made on the notori-

ously slippery issue of widespread non-compliance, which undermined the effectiveness of previous rounds of production

One Gulf official told agency reporters yesterday: "There are no fears this time about compliance. Every country is willing to comply fully. They have seen the consequences when they do otherwise."

However, oil industry executives say that producers are around 25 per cent short of meeting their agreed cutback targets and remain sceptical about the likelihood of things changing this time around.

3i chief looks for support from Electra shareholders

BRIAN LARCOMBE, the chief BY ANDREW GARFIELD executive of 3i, the venture Financial Editor capital group, is visiting shareholders in rival Electra Investment Trust this week in an £1.25bn final cash-and-shares bid for the trust.

aunched on Friday, eliciting an on the table. immediate rebuff from Electra's chairman, Michael Stoddart, who called the offer "inadequate". Mr Larcombe will be joined by 3;i's finance director, Michael Queen.

Mr Larcombe, who will also

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shareholders this week, believes that, with no white knight effort to drum up support for its having so far emerged, the offer of 65 new 3i shares and £320.70 in cash for 100 Electra The bid was formally shares represents the best deal

> Electra is pressing ahead with its own tender offer for 40 per cent of the trust's stock at 786p a share. Electra is also pledged to wind-up the trust within five years.

Electra maintains it is still board. The attractiveness of the

had yet emerged, despite some energetic lobbying by Mr Stoddart in New York last week.

Mr Stoddart is believed to have seen a number of hedge fund investors, including George Soros. Goldman Sachs. the American investment bank, is also believed to have been in

However, City sources say that financial buyers have had difficulty justifying paying the kind of price Mr Stoddart was seeking to bring back to the

though as of yesterday no one vestors is also limited by the fact that most of them have their own leveraged funds.

Nevertheless, analysts say that by declaring its offer final subject to a counter-bid by a third party 3i may have laid itself open in the event of another party coming in and buying a stake in Electra but not making a full bid.

Electra's largest shareholders include the Prudential Equitable Life, Standard Life and Legal & General. In addition US-based arbitrageurs are believed to have been active over the past weeks and may account for up to 16 per cent of the stock.

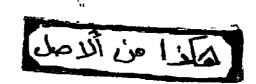
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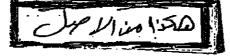
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THE INDEPENDENT Hunti 1999

£10bn in cash-backs and that's just a start

market's newest passion and STOCK MARKET to see how buybacks allow the per cent lower at 178m. look forward to since the start of the year. The latest craze for returning capital to shareholders has gripped blue chips and minnows alike and since January a dozen companies have pledged to hand back money to their followers through share buybacks or special dividends.

Last week, Tomkins, the struggling buns-to-guns conglomerate, jumped on the cash-back bandwagon with plans for a £400m buyback, and this week fellow engineer Glynwed could follow suit.

The two metal bashers join a list of capital returners that includes blue-chips such as Halifax, Centrica, the Woolwich and Gallaher, and undercard members such as Hazlewood Foods and Charter.

In total, over £10bn has been earmarked for shareholders' pockets in the first two months of the year, including a massive £2.1bn coming the way of UK investors in the Anglo-Dutch consumer giant Unilever Market watchers believe that there is a lot more to come and predict a record year for cash-backs, with £20bn set to be paid back - more than twice last year's total.

These bumper returns should underpin the market. issue, boosting the company's ranked the funds will go to increase earnings per share. Given that The funds will go to increase the already large pool of money available to investors. boosting demand for stock. With equity supply restrained by takeovers and a dearth of new issues, the omens for share prices are looking good.

The reasons for the handout bonanza lie in a shift in the relationship between companies' managements and investors. Gone are the days when sleepy boards could let cash piles rot for ages on their balance sheets. The new creed of shareholder value - that is, making money for your investors - dictates that funds not used for acquisitions or in-

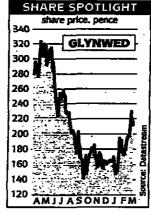


FRANCESCO **GUERRERA**

vestment be speedily sent back to institutions and punters. The favourable tax treatment of debt compared to equity is also a spur to gear up the balance sheet and return

Handing back idle money is all well and good, but the key issue is how you do it. Of the three traditional instruments - share buybacks, special dividends and capital restructurings – buybacks are by far the most inequitable. For a start, not all shareholders receive capital on an equal basis.

Private investors tend to lose out to bigger institutions as shares are bought in the market where the pension funds are kings. Moreover, buybacks reduce the number of shares in most executives' bonuses are



great and the good to marry shareholder value with their personal fortunes.

Special dividends are much fairer than buybacks as every investor is treated equally and there is little EPS distortion. Extra dividends plummeted to just over £1bn last year from £3.6bn in 1997, but they are enjoying a renaissance this year, thanks to the Woolwich £236m handout and Unilever's multibillion pound payment.

By contrast, the appeal of capital restructurings, used by the Halifax for its £1.5bn payback, is fading fast as the demise of advance corporation tax will wipe out most of their tax advantages. Of course, share repur-

chases are just more than "mucking about with the EPS", as one dealer put it. As Associated British Ports, which is buying back £50m, and Tomkins would argue, rolling buybacks are the ideal tonic for a depressed share price. So far this year we have

£650m in total, but we could be in for a busy spring. David McBain and Bob Semple at BT Alex.Brown, believe that next month's abolition of ACT will "open the buyback floodgates". The drug giant Smithkline Beecham, for one, has already hinted at a £5bn repurchase after ACT goes and BG, the former British Gas, could also go for a £1.5bn cash

Glynwed could this week add to the cash sloshing around the market. The engineer, results on Wednesday, has some £300m of surplus capital after shedding some of pipes. The sale of other nonfurther firepower. The results will be hit by the restructuring. which also included the £174m purchase of the German pipemaker Friatec, and tough

linked to EPS growth, it is easy markets. Profits should be 15

Glynwed is one of several engineers set to dominate the results schedule this week. The Scottish pump maker Weir will have a tough time. The company will have to jusafter rejecting a 300p-a-share bid from its US rival Flowserve. It will not be easy. Profits will probably rise marginally to around 263m from £60m, but the outlook for this year is bleak, as manufacturers. Weir's main customers. continue to suffer

Lucas Varity will complete the engineers' hat-trick. Profits, set to rise some 5 per cent to £346m, are largely academic as Lucas is being bought by the US group TRW for \$6.7bn. The interesting bits are the cost of Lucas's botched attempt to move its domicile and listing to the US, probably £13m, and the impact of the General Motors strike, say

Lucas will be joined by P&0 as one of the few blue-chips to unveil figures. The ferry and cruise group could increase its dividend for the first time in nine years after sailing to a 10 per cent profit advance to around £400m. The cruise division will be the main driver of growth, Richard Hannah at RT Alex Brown believes that two new ships should have propelled operating profits 26 per cent higher to £220m. Expect some moaning over the abolition of duty-free shops on cross-channel ferries.

Next should lift some of the gloom surrounding the high street. Profits will be down, say 10 per cent to some £160m, owing to a poor first half. However, the upgrade of its mernesses to focus on making chandising and buying systems should have boosted core operations should provide trading in the latter part of the year. All eyes will be on current trading comments following a profit warning from Arcadia and bearish retail



James Palumbo (left)), owner of the Ministry of Sound nightclub, with Mark Rodol, his partner

Ministry of Sound wins action against director

JAMES PALUMBO, the owner of the fashionable South-east London nightclub The Ministry of Sound, has finally won a legal action against a former director of the club, Lynn Cosgrave, 18 months after the row

In November 1997 the Ministry, based in Elephant & Castle, issued a writ against Ms Cosgrave, claiming that while in its employment she "knowingly acted in a manner detrimental" to the club. The club alleged that she took "for herself profits and/or benefits arising from the use of company assets", and "devoted substantial amounts of her work-

her own interests". The club also claimed that she then "destroyed and/or removed and/or deleted from the computer system the majority of the documents" relating to her employment.

ing time to the furtherance of

Mr Palumbo, son of Lord Palumbo, the former chairman of the Arts Council and wellknown socialite, originally hired Ms Cosgrave to deal with the club's DJs, but then fell out with

Ms Cosgrave is currently vice-president of Sony Dance manager of DJs Danny Rampling and John Digweed.

Ms Cosgrave's legal costs following the judgment are likely to be substantial.

Under the terms of the

WHO'S SUING WHOM

JOHN WILLCOCK

count to Mr Palumbo for any money she earned for herself using company assets.

ALIBERIAN-REGISTERED COMpany is suing an Austrian investment bank in the High Courts in London over umpaid rent on a suite of offices it let to the term as a periodic tenant, the bank in Kiev in the Ukraine.

River Trust Corporation, which is based in 80 Broad Street, Monrovia, Liberia, has launched legal action against CAIB Investmentbank Aktiengesellschaft of Vienna, Austria for £82,119.32.

River Trust says that the rent is due from a range of five suites at Ivana Franko Street, Kiev for a term of 60 months from the l May 1997.

tocrats, Lord St Helens, is being sued by his landlord for repossession of his country home in the village of Waltham St Lawrence in Berkshire, as well as for £21,000 in back rent.

landlord, is also claiming rent and another £80,000 related to from Lord St Helens at a rate of £36,000 per year from the date of service of the writ until Lord St Helens has vacated Halls Farmhouse, Halls Lane, in Waltham St Lawrence.

Lord St Helens formerly lived in Marchfield House, Binfield, Berkshire. Mr Smith, who himself lives at another country house in the same county, Shottesbrooke Park in White Waltham, says Lord St Helens signed an agreement on 30 April 1997 for a term of 12 months to rent Halls Farmhouse at £3,000 per month.

Mr Smith says that Lord St Helens is still living at the farmhouse after the expiry of on the same terms as the original agreement.

Now Mr Smith claims the rent is £21,000 in arrears, and he wants his money and repossession of the farmhouse.

A SOHO-BASED company is suing a commodity trading group over the management charge for its offices in New Burlington Street in the West Tsedoko Ltd of Berwick

an action against Burlington Commodities Ltd (formerly 'Agrichem UK Ltd) over the offices on the fourth and fifth floor mons, while HSBC is using its of 4 New Burlington Street. usual firm, Clifford Chance, to Tsedoko is claiming nearly prepare its defence.

Bartholomew Smith, the £40,000 related to building work service charges for the

> HSBC IS preparing its legal defence against the action brought by its American banking rival, HFC, over the rebranding of all 1,700 Midland Bank branches with the name "HSBC"

HSBC, which bought Midland seven years ago, says it aims to complete the rebranding by the end of June. HFC launched its legal ac-

tion with a fanfare of publicity last week, claiming that customers would be confused by the similarity between the two An HSBC spokesman com-

mented on Friday: "We are going to contest the HFC writ vigorousty.' The stakes are high. Fol-

lowing Midland's sale to HSBC in 1992 the new owner replaced the traditional Midland Griffin with the red HSBC hexagonal logo. But HSBC has left it until this year actually to rebrand the Midland branches with its own name. The process is going ahead quickly - nearly 400 Midland branches were renamed as HSBC branches just last Thursday.

HFC is being represented by City solicitors Simmons & Sim-

Companies reporting and economics diary for the week ahead

-04, balance of payments 04. Finals: erties, BLP Group, Capital Industries, ternational, House of Fraser, Next, Slough Finals: Lucas Varity, Ask Central, CFS Monument Oil & Gas, Morgan Crucible, TT Group, Alexon Group, Core Group, Flying Flowers, Meristern, Nestor Healthcare, Pentide Theraneutics. Roxborn Group, Schroder Ventures, Wescol. TUESDAY - Economic statistics: Retail prices January. Finals: Croda, Ice-

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TEL: 0171 293 2222

TODAY - Economic statistics: Final GDP kend Group, P&O, Allied London Prop- ers, Chelsfield, Flexietch, Glynwed In- lending Feb, CBI industrial trends: March. Charles Baynes, Delta, EBC Group, Hunting, Independent News, Macfarlane Group, Newport Holdings, Severfield Reeve, Sherwood Group.

WEDNESDAY – Economic s Global trade January, non-EU trade Feb. Finals: Alliance Unichem, Brake Broth-

Estates, Weir Group, City Centre Restaurants, Darby Group, Fishers international, Bernard Matthews, Quality Software Group, Standford Rook, Taylor & Fran-Television Corp, Wolstenholme Rink, Interims: Barratt Developments. THURSDAY - Economics: Mortgage

span Group, Liorheart, Norcor Holdings, Novara, Ottakar's, Silvermines Group, Singer & Friedlander Group, UCM Group. taterinas: Leicester City. FRIDAY - Finals: Autologic Holdings, iS Solutions. AGM: YJ Lovell Holdings.

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These days, no expense fiddle is spared

POOR FIONA Jones, MP and now suddenly former MP. It's hard not to feel sympathy for her. To have lost (pending appeal) your seat in the Commons, your £45,000 MP's salary, your agent (who was fined £750 for his part in her downfall), the respect of your constituents, the doe-like loving gaze of your leader, and any shred of sympathy from your political peers is a tough break. To be sentenced to 100 hours of "community service" - the modem equivalent of being put in the

stocks - must seem a galling irony to a woman who has represented her community for nearly two years.

If they'd flogged her naked through the streets of Newark and put her in a ducking stool on the edge of town, she couldn't feel much worse than she does now. That faraway look of purse-lipped disbelief she wore after the court's decision - as of someone who, while watching her courtesy car being ritually crushed by the Serjeant-at-Arms is told that her pet hamster has been found dead in the microwave oven - spoke paragraphs.

What did she do wrong? She made a false return on her campaign expenses. But it wasn't an expenses fiddle as you or I might have once understood the concept. There was no freebie ride to Morocco or lingering candlelit supper à deux in the Adulterer's Rest Hotel, courtesy of the taxpayer. We're not talking designer frocks charged to a bogus "clothing allowance". She didn't indulge a taste for nasal sherbert under the heading of "research materials". All she did was overspend her own cash on party banners, stickers, hired cars, petrol and toner for the photostat machine; she was, as far as we can tell, simply guilty of being an over-zealous campaigner who finds she's exceeded the legal limit for expenses by 105 per cent, panics and tries to conceal

But life is hard in Expenses Land. Fiddles and "creative accounting" used to be a joke ("In Reading she was Charlotte! The pick of all the bunch/ But down on his expenses/ She was petrol, oil and lunch") and employers sometimes indulged a little moral trimming among their executives. But now the culture of wrongdoing is so advanced, you can't even claim back less than half of the money you 12. It cost £78. Your exPhilip Harris of Smith Klein Beecham. Do you remember it?' "Certainly," said George, "At the

Ivy. Very tasty, as I recall."
"The trouble is," said the finance director, "Mr Harris sadly died nine months ago." There was a silence. "Have you anything to say?" asked the fi-

nance director. "Well," said George, "I thought he was a bit quiet."

SIMON BRETT once edited an Anthology of Useful Verse, as though to refute W H Auden's famous dicturn that "poetry makes nothing

Now there's a new arrival at the interface of modem verse and handy advice. It turned up at the Poetry Society on Friday night, in the shape of Caroline Carver, an unpublished Cornwall-dwelling writer who has just won the National Poetry Competition with an effusion called "Horse Under Water".

Ms Carver arrived late and breathless to pick up her prize, having been delayed by a crash on the M4. A small, sweet-faced woman in her late 50s, like a miniaturised A S Byatt, she sat before the microphone and told the assembled bardic sophisticates how to handle

"If you try to stroke a shark on its forehead," she said, "you soon realise you have to do it downwards, from nose to tail. Do it the other way and your hand will be covered in blood, because the skin is abrasive, like little knives, all pointing the same way."

Ah yes, nodded the poets, we will certainly bear that in mind. "If you want to kill a shark," she continued, "you have to do it in the tummy, where the skin is smooth. You may have noticed that a shark's mouth is set quite far back towards its stomach, so if you're standing in shallow water, it has to roll on to its back to bite you. In other

Poet Caroline Carver may also find sharks in the world of publishing meshed in happy Cartesian har-north section of the Hanger Lane

penses form claims it was with words, if you want to kill a shark, you have to wait until it tries to kill you. As the audience digested this

vital intelligence, Ms Carver read her winning poem - about a horse that's used as shark-bait - in a lazy Caribbean dialect, the legacy of her time spent in Bermuda and Jamaica during the war as an evactiee memsahih

She has just stopped working for a lawyer's practice in Falmouth. You can almost see the dorsal fins of publishers circling around her. I predict an exciting newmillennium career for the formidable Ms Carver

"IT WAS like playing with a Stradivarius," said the veteran Italian film director Franco Zeffirelli at the Café Royal on Thursday night, referring to the experience of working with three dames of the English stage and two feisty American divas in his new movie, Tea With Mussolini, about a colony of saurian expatriates in Florence who refuse to acknowledge the reality of war in the flower-strewn piazzas they've learnt to call home.

Well molto grazie, Frank, they must have thought. I've seen the film and yes, there's a richly familiar quality about the performances of Joan Plowright (fussy and maternal). Maggie Smith (bitchy and xenophobic), Judi Dench (arty and tearful), Cher (hollow-cheeked and theatrical) and Lily Tomlin (playing a lesbian and looking weirdly like Dustin Hoffman these days). But will any of this starry quintet relish being compared to a 250-year-old violin, angular, overpriced, excessively varnished and incontrovertibly wooden?

IVE DISCOVERED a new strain of everyday metropolitan fury, a companion to road rage: it's called Radio Cut-in Rage. You're driving, let us say, along the South Circular, listening to Melvyn Bragg discussing cosmology, or perhaps to a blast of Schumann on Radio

Three, or the Capital Countdown or the News Quiz. You've just got to an interesting bit. You're negotiting a tricky right-hand turning at Tower Hill while concentrating on the words.



been compared to a 250-year-old violin, unlike Joan Plowright, Maggie Smith and Judi Dench

mony. Alan Coren is saying: "Tm grateful to Mr Lionel Flew of Basngstoke for this cutting from the Henley-on-Thames Gazette."

And then suddenly - "DUH-Dah DUMM. It's GLR Traffic Update! And had news from the Droitwich intersection. A lorry has jack-knifed, shedding its..." What the hell? You jab a finger at the search button on your radio. By the time you've got back to the station, you've missed it. The mood has gone. You shake your head. You go "Tsk".

Five minutes later, you shove a cassette into the tape slot. The Manic Street Preachers sing a delicious, if oddly up-tempo, song of loss and rejection, and you find yourself singing along: "But you / stole the sun from my har-ar-heart. You Your mind, hands and feet are stole the ... "CRASH. And on the

flyover, it's simply chaos out there! For any drivers approaching the.... You thump the steering wheel.

"Bugger off." you cry at the intrusive myrmidons of 94.9 khz on the FM wave, "I don't care what's happening at the Hanger Lane flyover." You try to calm down. You strive for a zen-like, uncaring stillness. One time, the only local radio sta-

tions that could cut in on other stations were pirates operating from a flat in Brixton; the yelling tones of Shabba Ranks would suddenly invade, say, Just a Minute, bringing Peter Jones's charming dilation on 'My Goldfish" to a brutal end. Now your sonic space is invaded from all directions with dismal jingles and otiose news about failed contraflow

It's happening more and more. Yesterday, en route to Sunday

lunch, Radio Kent cut in, just as The World This Weekend was bringing us news of the Breitling Orbiter

"Dah-DAH. And drivers should avoid the Maidstone area, where an oil tanker has collided with a milk float on the M2, causing a three-mile tailback..." Radio Kent? Goodness. Soon Radio Gdansk will be running a stronger signal than the British national radio stations, and cutting in on Desert Island Discs with updated news about pig-iron quotas.

I know sound radio is getting more competitive; but this plundering of the airwaves can only result in driver irritation, gear lever abuse, dashboard violence and undisciplined shouting at your windscreen. The Department of Aural Pollution must look into it without delay.

by Portia

It's time for a Treaty

JOHN

Walsh

ON MONDAY

spent, without having a political op-ponent say you've falsified the

record and must be challenged in

cuse prepared. Like the famous ICI

executive who fiddled his expens-

es for years with the help of a con-

tacts book of important clients in

the pharmaceuticals industry,

whose names he would care-

One day, the finance di-

fully rotate through the

months, while secretly

lunching friends, family

rector called him in. " Look

George," he said, "it's

about your lunch on June

and mistresses

Ms Jones should have had an ex-

We call for the UK Government and citizens to strongly advocate a Treaty between the Australian Government and the Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

This Treaty should be concluded by 26th January, 2001 (Invasion Day in the Centenary of Australian Federation) as a symbolic date for negotiated settlement between the nation and the Indigenous Peoples.

We remind the United Kingdom Government and citizens that at no time have Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples been asked or given the freedom to accept or reject the Constitution of Australia or citizenship of the nation.

We remind the United Kingdom Government and citizens that they caused Aboriginal Peoples' and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' dispossession from 1788, and bestowed independence to the Australian colonies from 1901.

And now the United Kingdom Government and citizens fail to reconcile their atrocious deeds because they fail to advocate the restoration of Aboriginal Peoples' and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' human rights including legal ownership of the lands.

Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have not received the equal treatment and rights afforded to other Peoples of the Commonwealth who have now gained independence and selfdetermination through the process of de-colonisation.

The crimes and evils of racism have not been washed away by time and events.

This is a contemporary predicament, where injustice prevails, where the plunder and profit is sacred, where the dispossessed Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples remain oppressed in

Since 1991 the Australian Government has publicised its desire for Reconciliation between Government and the Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples by 2001.

The Australian Government has not made the necessary commitment to negotiate in good faith with Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. The Australian Constitution Act was passed by the United Kingdom Government in 1900 with

manifest intent to discriminate against Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and deny their recognition as Australian citizens. The Constitution of Australia still stands as both a real and symbolic instrument of racial oppression,

dispossession and social segregation of Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. The Australian nation is considering Constitutional change as a benchmark of 100 years of

independent government, but the nation is pre-occupied with less fundamental issues in the Constitution than the nation's institutionalised racism and racial oppression. We call for a Treaty signed between the Aboriginal Peoples and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and

the Government of Australia by 2001. We petition the United Kingdom Government and the Peoples of the United Kingdom to guarantee

human rights by strongly advocating this Treaty.

It's time for the United Kingdom to act with responsibility.

It's time for a Treaty.

United Kingdom Supporters . . .

Trade Union Congress (TUC) Race Relations Committee, UNISON National Black Members Committee, National Assembly Against Racism, RMT Black and Ethnic Minority Committee. Roland Biosah Chair 1999 Black Workers' Conference, Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organisation, Professor Germaine Greer, Dr Greg and Sally Williams, Dr John Wentworth, European Network for Indigenous Australian Rights, Keith Vaz MP, Jeremy Corbyn MP, John Pilger, Jane Hubert, Ros Poignant, Jeff and Fiona Waters, Bob Perkins, Lee Jasper.

For further information contact:- Sanjiv Vedi, UNISON, 20 Grand Depot Rd, London SE18 6SF. Telephone: 0181 854 2244 or 0171 460 7280.

THE MONDAY CROSSWORD

ACROSS

(4,2,6)

No.3876 Monday 22 March

Full circle's complete without team leader (7)

10 Spear fish in English river (7) 11 Every tutor's taking time off (4)

12 Irish writer's exciting, we hear (5)

13 Notes honour given composer (4)

16 Can set about meeting price of fertiliser (7)

17 Disorderly without the police up front (7)

18 Fancy work? (7) 21 Junior accountant making for

holiday island (7)

Girl in Peru they visited (4) 24 Shame to restrict sweetheart's

devotion (5) 25 Initially serve sauce by mistake (4)

28 Touching spur's point to begin

29 Slide locks and bolt together (7) 30 Member of trust in US city (12)

DOWN

Deal with hack producing impressive design (7)

Way of expressing negative - a

French word (4) Bygone Model T I renovated (3-4)

Keep quote about commercial trainee (7)

Surrounded by shadowy area going up (4)

Sort out directions given for explosive (7)

Henry can order Noel to reveal

secret (4.3.6) 8 In a difficult position on board?

14 Public schoolboy, popular Dickensian character (5)

15 Rock music? (5) 19 Record deposit (3,4) 21 Went with chap in pursuit of partnership (7)

22 Decline right to slip away (7)

26 Discharge fuel (4)

20 Wounding glance? (4.3)

27 Look shabby, by the sound of it (4)

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Toffoos come unstuck as Manchester United stay



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Tir Dept

THE INDEPENDENT



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"Dah DAH And draws deg greed the Mandels as area where oil tenter has substrainthes. - that on the M. consequence tailback / Taido Kent' Gots Soon Butto tada da udbermie a mirenger against that the being e Cantional varior to bors and care ा **हा का में के उन्हों** कि अपने में तहता है।

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Toffees come unstuck as

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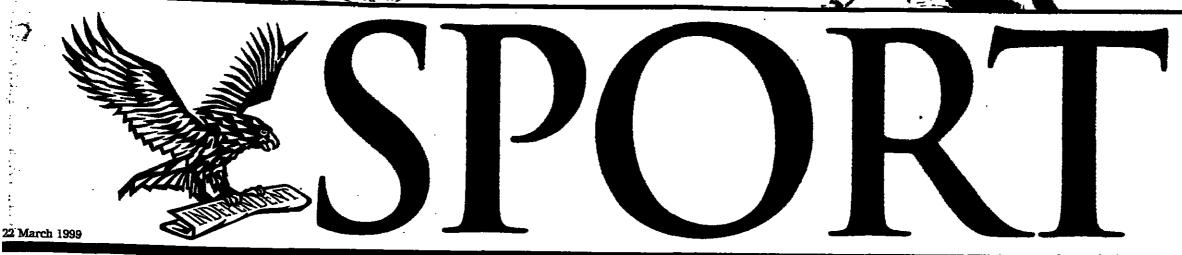
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*THE INDEPENDENT

England's Graham Thorpe pads up for the **World Cup**

Woodward's Twickenham steamroller crushes the life out of France

Rusedski takes a stroll in the Florida sunshine



Worthington Cup final: Dane claims trophy for Tottenham with injury-time goal after Edinburgh is dismissed

Nielsen header caps drama

BY GLENN MOORE at Wembley

Leicester City Tottenham Hotspur

BEFORE YESTERDAY'S Worthingten Cup final a group of Leicester supporters were drawing an angry reaction from Tottenham fans with pe taunt: "You're just a bunch of cooners". They may not like the comparision, but there was definitely a touch of the Arsenal about Tottenham's victory at Wembley.

It was not the sight of George Graham on the bench, or the score, "One-nil to the Tott-en-ham", they also had a man sent off and showed a resilience that used only to be associated with the red-and-white half of north London. There was even an echo of Spurs' last visit to Wembley, for the 1993 FA Cup semi-final, when Arsenal had Lee Dixon sent off but still beat them 1-0. Graham, of course, was then managing Arsenal. Following six trophies with them, he has now won seven pots in

Tottenham's goal, scored by Allan Nielsen in the third minute of injurytime, was just reward for the more e genturous of two essentially negtive teams. But if the final was dis appointing as a match it did not lack drama or human interest. Nielsen. for example, has been marginalised

Frank Sinclair misses final after breach of discipline Page 3

at White Hart Lane by the arrival of Tim Sherwood (cup-tied for this game) and has been talking of leaving. He may still do so, but at least he would go with a place in the Tottenham pantheon assured.

Then there was Justin Edinburgh, the only survivor of Spurs' last trophy success, the FA Cup in 1991. Included because Mauricio Taricco is cup-tied, he had talked of wanting to remember the experience more than he had been able to a 21-year-old. That he certainly all, but he would probably prefer to forget it as he was sent off for striking Robbie Savage after 63 minutes. He did not hit Savage hard, certainly not as hard as the Welshman's reaction suggested, but he raised his arm, made contact and could have

. It proved to be the turning point, though not in the way expected. Leicester, having already reduced David Ginola to a peripheral figure by the attentions of Robert Ulathorne, ought to have gone on and won the match. The incident came as they were gaining the ascendancy but, with Emile Heskey unfit and eventually withdrawn, they had no

bood that Spurs would tire. Tottenham, however, also had the extra half-hour on their minds they took the game to Leicester eager to win it while their limbs allowed them. They were also fired up by Edinburgh's dismissal.



ting in the 80th minute, took a pass creasingly likely. from Les Ferdinand on the right and ran at Steve Walsh, 12 years his senior. The Norwegian reached the edge of the six-yard box then shot midfield, especially in the first half. hand to the ball, it popped up and Ginola at every opportunity but, Nielsen, despite having three once he had it, did not offer him petency. They appeared to sit back and wait for extra time in the likeliwas able to dive forward to head it

> The irony was that Savage had left the pitch just seconds earlier,

The dramatic conclusion was in stark contrast to the match, which across goal, Kasey Keller got a Tottenham looked to give the ball to Leicester defenders around him, many options. Instead they waited in vain for him to dribble his way through the blue shirts that quickly surrounded him.

As a consequence Tottenham substituted by Martin O'Neill for his managed only one clear attempt at make an excellent tackle. own good - a second booking, and goal in the opening half, an Iversen

There was one other opportunity. created by a delightful back-heel

from Ginola, but Anderton was closed down before he could shoot. Leicester, who included five members of the team who won this competition in 1997, produced even less, failing to manage even a single shot. A Savage pass created the best chance of the half but Heskey, having got away from Soi Campbell, delayed and allowed Ramon Vega to

That, apart from a booking for action. He became the third player ebrated with glee by the Lillywhite

Iversen, who had hit the side nethis own dismissal, had seemed inheader six minutes before the break Matt Elliott for a late tackle on to be sent off in a senior Wembley hordes. There was still no sound, from a Darren Anderton free-kick. Vega, was it for the first half. The sectional, after Kevin Moran in the 1985 however, of a chorus of "Georgie ond began more brightly, Leicester at last pushing forward with Ullathorne leaving Ginola's side to drive in a 25-yard shot that Ian Walker initially spilled. As Tony Cottee charged in for the loose ball, the goal-

keeper recovered to smother the ball

Eight minutes later Edinburgh and Savage contested a loose ball on for that first winner's medal in Engthe half-way line. Savage's clatter-ing challenge was late but that could not excuse Edinburgh's re- team-mates, victory was being cel-

FA Cup, and Andrei Kanchalskis in

this competition a decade later.

Leicester, instead of capitalising, stood off, their reluctance to commit men forward underlined when Cottee went past Walker only for his cross to roll through an empty goal area. It was to be their last chance. Cottee, still searching land, was in tears at the end.

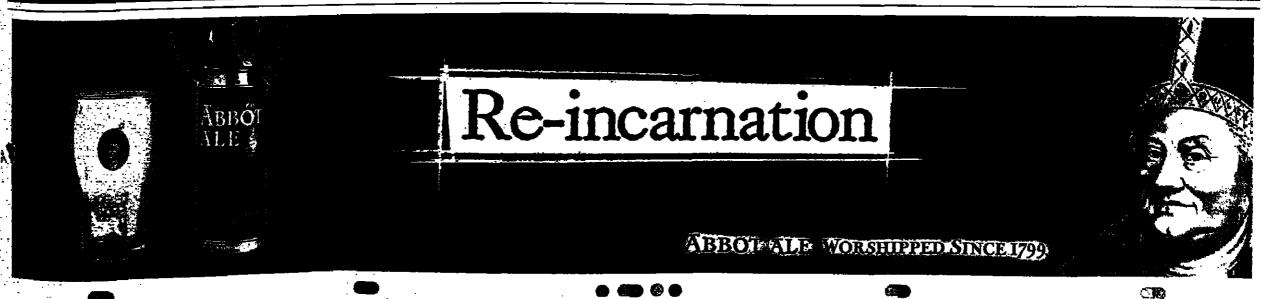
While he was being consoled by

however, of a chorus of "Georgie Graham's blue-and-white army". Maybe that will come if he leads

them to the FA Cup as well. Goales Nielsen [50] Q-1.
Lalosster Chy [3-5-2]. Keller; Laggart, Elliott; Walsh, Ulfathorie, Sauge [Zagoraks, 90], Lizer, Lennos, Gappy, Cottee, Heskey (Mayshal, 74), Sabstitutes not used: Kaamark, Shaat Campbell, Architect (th).

Dominguez, Baardsen (gk)
Referenc T Helibron (Neurton Ayckite), Booking

Football: 2-5 🖁 The week ahead: 6 🖁 Brian Viner: 7 🖥 Rugby Union: 9 🖥 Racing: 10 📕 Cricket: 11 🖥 Tennis: 12



Not guilty as charged but abuse continues

day. Nothing remarkable about that, you might think. However, there is. I had not set foot on Teesside since Middlesbrough were relegated from the Premiership two years ago, their fate sealed by the decision of the Premier League to dock them three points for calling off a match at Blackburn

Rovers without permission. It had become clear to me from the many abusive letters I received and the reception accorded me at two cup finals in 1997 - that most, if not all, Middlesbrough supporters held me solely responsible for their visit to the Nationwide. It made no difference that the ruling on was entirely a Premier League matter for Rick Parry and his colleagues. But it was I who took the rap. Obviously I was the convenient establishment

The abuse did not worry me too much. I simply resolved to steer clear of Teesside for a while. A considerable while! Then, last Sunday morning, after our Durham Buffaloes team had defied the passing of time with another sparkling performance, my friend Ian happened to offer me a spare ticket for the game later that day. His girlfriend was unable to go, having given birth to their

the three points had nothing It could have been worse, I been due the very day Juninbeen scheduled to make his return debut. Neither Juninho nor the baby arrived on sched-

> "Are you sure you want to take me?" I asked, "Haven't you forgotten something?" "What's that?" he said. "Your fans don't like me," I reminded him. "I was even harred from a wedding in Middles-brough last year." Oh there'll be no problem," he assured me, "we're back in the Premier

> So it was that I found myself queuing with Ian outside his chosen entrance at half past



GRAHAM KELLY

three. He is superstitions and firmly believes Boro's performance is inextricably linked to the turnstile he uses. He must have used every door in the ground this season as home performances have fluctuated.

Climbing the steps inside he had defended me to his the ground we encountered friends or joined in the abuse our first problem. "What's he two years ago. The young defender Robbie doing here?" shouted a burly Stockdale predicted in the home fan. "He shouldn't be allowed in the ground." To my

amusement, Ian apologised to

me and attempted to explain

the true situation to the pro-

tester as I walked on. I can only

assume Ian's reasoned argu-

ment fell on deaf ears, for the

last words I heard (whose they

were I am not sure) were "F*** off, you w*****."

I received one or two

match programme that Middesbrough's next few games would not be brilliant to watch. He was certainly proved right that day. After the stadium had filled rapidly between ten to four and kick off, there was little flair on display. Gazza was missing. Possibly he had suffered a mishap in the Comic Relief nude match.

My neutral gaze alighted on Matthew Le Tissier. Sadly, strange looks on the concourse, but no more abuse he was out of sorts. Shortly came my way. I bumped into a former FA colleague. He is anafter being booked for a foul, he other Middlesbrough supportwas fortunate that referee Mike Reed missed him punch-

ing clear a free-kick when standing in a defensive wall on the penalty spot. The veteran, Mark Hughes, tried to play some football, but one volleyed shot went out of play near the

half-way line. Hamilton Ricard gave the Southampton defence (and their small band of fans) a worrying afternoon, and Mikkel Beck created a bit of space. He has a distinctive feint as he receives the ball. blond mane and body making to go one way, ball and feet the other. And Dean Gordon foraged down the left wing to good effect, once hitting the foot

There was a fashion parade at half time. Fans have been

asked to choose Middles-brough's away kit for next season. Purple with green trim drew derision. Purple and white drew equal scorn. And purple and darker purple did not go down awfully well either

Universal acciamation was re-served for white with purple collar Middlesbrough eventually ran out comfortable 3-0 winners. Thirty-three thousand fans trudged away from the Riverside Stadium happy in the knowledge that a worrying slide had been halted, albeit at

the expense of a pretty dread-

ful Southampton team. The natives were no longer revolting. Some even asked me to come again. I will,

Flo fires Chelsea's title dream

AWEEKafter Gianluca Vialli con- BY PHIL SHAW ceded the title following a wobble against West Ham, Chelsea made nonsense of their playermanager's pessimism yesterday. Even a three-goal victory at Villa Park, which saw them clamber back over Leeds into the Champions' League qualifying zone, did scant justice to their superiority over an Aston Villa side who have now taken one point from eight matches.

Vialli's side, who were indebted to a splendid two-goal flourish from Tore Andre Flo, thus moved to within three points of Manchester United's closest pursuers, Arsenal They have two games in hand on the leaders and, crucially, expect to welcome back Gustavo Poyet in their next match, at Charlton The toughest of their remaining fixtures is at home to Leeds. Otherwise, their run-in is largely comprised of mid-table teams or clubs from the lower reaches.

If anyone at Stamford Bridge really had given up on the championship, they forgot to let Flo in on the theory. Breaking his team's sequence of three domestic fixtures without a goal, he fired Chelsea in front moments make sure of the points until the last four minutes, when Bjarne Goldback and Flo scored, was almost entirely due to the agility of Mark Bosnich, the one Villa player seemingly unaffected by a chronic lack of confidence.

Villa will be glad to see the back of Flo for another season. The gangling Norwegian was on the scoresheet when Chelsea punctured their early optimism with a 4-1 win in the Worthington Cup in October, and then scored the last-gasp goal which con-December But, in truth, Villa will Flo rounding Bosnich before be glad to see the back of the season, period. Having led the pack campaign. going into the new year, John Gremissing out on a Uefa Cup place.

Worryingly for the Villa manager, the most conspicuous demonstration of passion yesterday came from their physio. Jim Walker, who was on the pitch to treat Stan Collymore following a challenge which earned Marcel Desailly a yellow card, exchanged heated words with Dennis Wise after the Chelsea captain appeared to cast aspersions on the prostrate striker.

HUDDERSFIELD V BIRMINGHAM

Home wins (0): NONE.

Away wins (D): NONE.

Score draws (0): NONE.

No score draws (0): NONE.

6 Score draws

5 Score draws

V BRISTOL R

V BURNLEY

Aston Villa

The incident could prove costly for Chelsea. Wise also ended up being cautioned, and now both he and Desailly are suspended for next month's visit to Wimbledon. None of which was of any consolation to Villa, who gave the ball away with alarming regularity.

The only surprise was that Chelsea took so long to translate their ascendancy into goals. They frequently had Bosnich's protectors in disarray and the Australian had to be at his best to keep Flo and Gianfranco Zola at bay before the break. The home side made only one chance during the same period, Dion Dublin's header from Alan Thompson's cross forcing Ed de Goey into a diving catch. The breakthrough arrived

after a deftly chipped throughpass by Albert Ferrer released Flo in the inside-right channel. Switching the ball on to his left foot, and throwing off Gareth Southgate in the process, he curled a low shot beyond Bosnich before the hour. That they did not from the angle of the six-yard box.

Desailly almost gifted Villa an equaliser with uncharacteristically slack control in the 76th minute, only for Julian Joachim's lob over De Goey to pass wide. The miss stung Chelsea into renewed efforts which produced the additional goals their performance merited.

Goldback, arguably the snin of the season at £300,000 from FC Copenhagen, collected his fourth goal for Chelsea with a fulminating finish after being played in by Flo. The provider became slotting in his 11th goal of the

Gregory admitted later that gory's team are now in danger of the longer Villa's decline went on, the harder it became to end it. "The transformation has

been amazing," he sighed.
Geals: Flo (59) 0-1: Goldosek (85) 0-2: Flo (90) 0-3.
Asson Wille (3-5-2): Bosnich: Scimeca.
Southgate, Barry, Waison, Stone, Hendrie (1aylo, 83). Thompson, Whight; Dublin (Merson, 74). Colymore (Joachin, 74). Sabethates not used: Draper, Cales (gk).
Chalesa (4d-2): De Gore, 16 Sarr, Despit. Chalsas (4-4-2): De Goey, Le Saux, Desali-ly, Leboeuf, Ferner, Petrescu (Lambourde, 78), Morris, Wise, Goldback: Zola, Ro (Micholls, 90): Sabszitutes net assed: Duberry, New-ton, Hitchcock (gk). Referers: G Barber (Surrey), Bookings: Vil-la: Thompson, Chelseas Ferner, Desally, Wise.

Game Results 20/3/99.

This Saturday there were 7 score draws:

1193 LUCKY WINNERS THIS WEEK

Value of tickets extered this week: £299,986.

38% of sales contributed to prizes.

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EVERY WEEK IT'S A WHOLE NEW BALL GAME.

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must be 16 or over to play or claim a prize.

NO WINNERS



miership away defeat in marvellous pass by Jody Morris, Mark Bosnich, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, punches clear from the head of Chelsea's Gianfranco Zola at Villa Park yesterday

Rovers trio tear Dons apart

IT WAS not just the Blackburn By SIMON TURNBULL players who were back in form at Ewood Park on Saturday. True to managerial type, Brian Kidd came up with the right result when asked to assess the pressively, the last thing Kidd eight matches that will determine the Premiership fate of his rollercoasting Rovers.

"We're just looking at the next one," he said. "We're taking each game as it comes."

The trouble for the Blackburn manager is that the next one, against Middlesbrough at Ewood, does not come until Saturday week - and there is only one more after that, against Arsenal at Highbury three days

Having got his side back on the rails and shifting so im-

Blackburn Rovers

needed was a four-week stretch with just two fixtures to contest. It was difficult enough for Rovers to maintain momentum for just 90 minutes on Saturday.

That was hardly surprising, though, considering the tempo of the all-out assault which flattened Wimbledon in the first half. Kidd was pleased his players were disappointed with their second-half efforts but Ashley Ward added: "We were disappointed to be 3-0 up at half-time." It could easily have been 3-0

later, before 17 April.

in the seventh minute, such was dividual tasks with devastating precision of Blackburn's relentless offensive play.

Given Blackburn's position, Kidd should be commended for the start by the three roving casting caution aside and sending his team to battle with three front-line attackers. Such an adventurous approach was dismissed as over-ambitious when Kevin Keegan tried it at Newcastle, but it did not work for the a side-footed finish. The second England caretaker because Alan Shearer, Les Ferdinand and Faustino Asprilla either got in each other's way or failed

to contribute collectively. It worked for Blackburn because Ward, Chris Sutton and and Sutton's lob. Matt Jansen not only toiled in

the pace, the purpose and the effect. Admittedly, Wimbledon were not... well, not like Wimbledon. But that was because they were cut to shreds from

musketeers. It was a wonder that it took as long as seven minutes for Rovers to score, Sutton and Jansen combining on the edge of the area to leave Ward with goal was more messy, Jansen bundling the ball over the line with the unwitting assistance of Ben Thatcher and Alan Kimble but the chance came courtesy of Dario Marcolin's throughball

The dynamic trio were inbefore Ward opened the scoring tandem but performed their involved in the third goal too. Sut-

following his England recall, released Ward, whose shot was blocked by Sullivan, and Jansen pounced on the rebound.

It was over as a contest by the 26th minute, though Jason Euell's effort, midway through Blackburn's second-half coast, was at least one crumb to console the 120 Wimbledon fans on

SOIE The 120 Wimbledon fans on their long journey home, Goals: Ward 16] 1-0; Jorsen (18) 2-0; Jansen (26) 3-0; Eucli (65) 3-1.

Blackbarn Rovers (4-3-3): Flan; McAteer, Herchot, Taylor, Davidson, Johnson (Paylor, Bo), Marcolin, Wilcox (Gillespie, BO); Jansen (Duff, 57), Wart, Surton, Substitutes not used: Davies, Fettis (gk).

Mignibledon (4-4-2): Sullivant Cunningham, Blackwell. Thatcher, Rimble; Ardley (C Hughes, h. C. Buell, Earle, M Hughes; Hartson (Eladiu, h.-t). Gayle. Substitution not used: Roberts, Kennedy, Heald (gk).

Referes: G Willard (Wortning). Bookings: Blackburn: Davidson; Wimbledos: Thatcher, Blobin.

Fear of failure haunts Big Ron BY JON CULLEY

Nottingham Forest Middlesbrough

CONTRARY TO football folldore as some would see it, not everyone loves Big Ron. His arrival in Nottingham, for instance, sparked enormous scepticism.

Forest had to track him down to a beach in the Caribbean to offer him the manager's iob and even then he refused to cut short his holiday. Now, to some eyes at least, he swans around in his sharp suits with a fat salary cheque guaranteed, win or lose, wise-cracking his way along the road to the First Division. A nice little earner, those with raised eyebrows said, if there ever was one.

Until Saturday, that is. After Middlesbrough had pilfered the points at the City Ground, casting Forest further adrift in choppy relegation waters, the game's last great charactermanager set his features in a scowl. It was not the look of a man who did not give a damn.

He had kept the press waiting for almost an hour and now he had made his entrance he stared mostly straight ahead. There was no smile, let alone any jokes. He was very cross, he said, and those assembled did not disbelieve him. Forest were doomed, he more or less admitted, and he did not like it.

Atkinson did not like it when liked it even less when Sheffield Wednesday replaced him with Danny Wilson. Failure hurts his pride and Forest's miserable resoonse to his arrival is getting to him. He berated his players. They were weak-willed, he said, had failed to reveal even a modicum of mental strength and had handed Middlesbrough victory. "I'm furious." he said. "because of the way we played in the last 20 minutes. The game

was there to be won." It was such a contrast to the previous Saturday, when Forest had won at Wimbledon. Victories for Southampton and Blackburn on Saturday leave Forest isolated at the bottom.

If Forest now know where they will be next season, Atkinson does not. Rumour has it . that Forest have offered him £500,000-a-year to mastermind promotion from the First Division. Rumour has it also that they have sounded out Brian Little, said to be disenchanted at Stoke, and Tottenham's director of football. David Pleat. Whatever the truth is, Atkinson is unlikely to quit.

On Saturday, Forest might have hoped history would protect them. After all, Middlesbrough had not beaten them in 24 league meetings spanning 26 years. But when fate has decided to trample on your head such things count for little.

Forest made two serious 🙃 defensive errors and paid for 🦙 ∸ both, Hamilton Ricard catching Jesper Mattson out of position to give Bryan Robson's side the lead and Brian Deane taking his chance when Steve Chettle's header left Christian Edwards in trouble. Dougie Freedman struck his third goal in as many games but nothing else worked

for Forest 101 r Orest; Goals: Ricard [30] 0-1. Freedman (37) 1-1; Deane (87) 1-2; Mostingham Forese (3-4-1-2); Crossley, Edwards, Marisson (Porfico, 87), Checke; Louis-lean, Paimer, Barra-Milliams (Bonalak, 74), Rogers, Van Hoofidonk; Freedman

Hammers close in on European spot SUBTLE CHANGES are being BY ANDREW MARTIN ment. We couldn't live with last touched Nikos Dabizas's Shearer. Aside from a 20-yard

"Matchmaker Adjudicated Results for postponed matches made at Upton Park. A new club crest was unveiled on Saturday, the little caps on the castle's towers have disappeared without appearing to diminish the Boleyn's stout defences, while the crossed hammers have a hint more menace about them. Which was a fair assessment of PAYOUTS FOR 7, 6 AND 5 SCORE DRAWS affairs on the pitch as West Ham climbed to fifth place in You can now play until 4.30pm every Saturday. the Premiership by overcoming a stilted Newcastle. The promise of a place in Europe next season shifts tantalisingly closer to east London.

Paolo di Canio and Paul Kitson's recently formed attacking partnership provided the goals and the points, but the Hammers' fourth victory in six matches was indebted to a defence that has been fortified by the addition of Scott Minto and return from injury of Neil

That was abundantly clear to now and that's a great achieve-

West Ham United Newcastle United

Rund Gullit, who cut a weary if gracious figure following Newcastle's second successive League defeat. "We played some good stuff, but we did not have the firepower to make it difficult for them," the manager said. "Also because they had a good shape in the back four, and that was the difference." Naturally, Guilit's mood was in stark contrast to that of an

ebullient Harry Redknapp, The West Ham manager was positively aglow afterwards, heaping praise on his defenders and jesting amiably about Di Canio's skills, saying: "If he works on his ball control, he'll be a decent player!"

No, but seriously, Harry... "We've gone above Aston Villa

we can now. People will say they've gone backwards, but we've improved."

That they have is without doubt, and the recent additions of Marc-Vivien Foé and Minto demonstrates that Redknapp has an eye for a player. A gambler by nature, too, his decision to pay Sheffield Wednesday £1.7m for Di Canio after his four months in the footballing wilderness had appeared to be his greatest punt yet.

Di Canio was every bit the darting rapier, breaking wide on both wings, and a constant torment to Newcastle. His opening goal was inevitable when it arrived after 17 minutes. A long ball forward caused Newcastle's makeshift defence to falter, but Di Canio appeared offside when the ball fell squarely into his path. The assistant referee

waved, but, since the ball had

angled his shot beyond Shay Given. The goalkeeper appeared to have acknowledged the flag rather than the old maxim of playing to the whistle. The referee, Paul Durkin, overruled his assistant and the goal stood. "A terrible goal, but a good

decision," conceded Gullit.

In the second half, Di Canio teed up Kitson with a cross from the right, but the former Newcastle striker headed wastefully against the bar, the ball rolling along the goalline before Lau-rent Charvet hacked it clear. On 82 minutes Kitson was not to be thwarted when he ran on to Frank Lampard's raking pass downfield, pirouetted free of two defenders, and drove his

shot inside the far post.

The attacking brio of the West Ham forwards drew a stark comparison to another forlorn 90 minutes from Alan

Newcastle a few years ago but heel, the Italian played on and free-kick early in the match that was saved by the excellent Shaka Hislop, Shearer was an isolated and frustrated figure, easily contained by his England team-mate Rio Ferdinand. Gullit would not be drawn on

the striker's performance - "I don't talk about individuals" and a terse claim that his formation comprised three attackers appeared disingenuous. His first season at Newcastle now hinges on the FA Cup

semi-final, while West Ham could be on the cusp of engaging European opposition for ing European opposition for the first time in 18 years, Goais: Ol Carlo (17) 1-0: Neson (82) 2-0. Neses (82) 2-0. Neses Ham United (4-4-2): Histor: Pearce, Ferdinard, Ruddock, Mistor, Lampard, Foe. Lomas, Sinclair, Di Carso, Nison, Sebestissess set used. Potts, Keller, Moncur, Berkowk, Furrest (gd).

Nesucassite United (4-4-2): Given, Griffin, Charlet, Dabitas, Dome, Mark (Nessbala, 59). Georgiodis (Lee, 60). Speed, Solano; Shearer, Selts. Substituties and used. Borton, Hughes, Harper (gk)
Referen: P Duridin (Portland). Bookings: Wess Ham: Foé, Ruddock.

Nam of the match, Ruddock.

Attandance: 25,997.

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THE INDEPENDENT
Monday 22 March 1999

BY JON CULLEY

Nottungham Forest Muldlesbruigh

CONTRACTOR TO Section as some would seek as one loves Big Ron lies in Nottingham in E specked coornesses

Forest had to ode thum to a beaching. hem) to offer handeas हको अपने हर हम किला है हुई cut short his holds ha some over at least bar around in his shaper a fall salary cheesed terral, waster lose, were has way along the re-Para Dayson America or, these with racein

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al Sea. Or tarm Best Mar-· differi priodi priodi

Smith Maked to choose hide hands a sure burgh, with groups at three deriving purple of maked burght and three down in the purple of the constitution of the committee with page Maddle-brough reads

agreed to put back this fixture 24 hours to give Manchester United recovery time after their European Cup exertions, they collapsed obligingly at Old Traf-ford yesterday. With opposition like this, who needs friends? United did not even have to search deeply to maintain their

four point advantage at the top of the Premiership. For most of the afternoon their dynamic approach appeared to have been left in Milan but they stirred themselves for a dozen minutes in the second half to make it their ninth win in 10 League matches. It was a weary performance

finals of the European Cup by reanxious spring at Goodison.

es well," Walter Smith, the Liverton manager, said, "but even then we weren't causing United problems. You cannot expect to play like that for 90 minutes, so when the goal came it wasn't a surprise. They deserved the win."

The first half was a barren landscape in terms of entertainment. Everton, with six defenders and a centre-back, Dave Unsworth, as a left-winger, made no secret of their negative intentions, although United were scarcely much better. De-

resigned to spring struggle

EVERTON'S GENEROSITY BY GUY HODGSON knows no bounds. Having

from the treble chasers but they had reached the semimoving Internazionale in midweek and had an alibi. Everton had no excuse and, apart from obdurate resistance before the interval, no redeeming qualities. Two points above the relegation places, it is going to be another

"In the first half we defend-

Manchester United

Scholes through suspension and Ryan Giggs and Jesper Blomovist through injury, the home side lacked width and as they turned inwards, the game resembled the traffic jams around Old Trafford afterwards.

United threatened to break free from this trap only twice, Ole Gunnar Solskjaer with a shot and Henning Berg with a header, and it was Everton who provided the most potent preinterval moment when Marco Materazzi lashed a free-kick that required Peter Schmeichel to stretch low to his right to

The match had to improve in the second half, although even that was on a long fuse. Gary Neville provided the first hint that the afternoon was not going to be a complete bore with a spectacular volley after 53 minutes and two minutes later United took the lead.

Again Neville was involved passing to Solskjaer on the edge of the area. So little had gone right for United in the area you could have forgiven Everton for expecting the move to fizzle out, but the Norwegian exchanged a lightning one-two with Dwight Yorke and drilled

the ball into the far corner. With the dam broken the water poured through and United made it 2-0 after 63 minutes. Yorke turned away from Don Hutchison and spread doubt among the Everton rearguard with a twisting prived of Roy Keane and Paul run that appeared to be a pre-



Dwight Yorke, the Manchester United striker, keeps control as Everton's Marco Materazzi looks on at Old Trafford yesterday

man. Instead he rolled the ball into Gary Neville's path and the full-back scored only his second goal for the club.

United were rampant now and three minutes later they secured the points with a third fect for David Beckham, who some respectability.

guson. The United manager some won't but they'll come swerved the ball round the Jaap Stam fouled Olivier had feared that the first three back in two weeks ready for the swerved the ball round the

via Thomas Myhre's outstretched arms. It was his first goal since November. United's Jonathan Green-

ing hit the post and later pulled goal. Ronny Johnsen was dom of the area so the damage brought down by Craig Short to Everton could have been and in a central position and 25 far, far worse. But instead of a yards out the setting was per- rout the visitors discovered

Hutchison fired a shot past him, depriving the Dane of the chance to beat Alex Stepney's record of 175 clean sheets for

a shot wide after Teddy Sheringham had given him the free-

United. In different circumstances he would have gone ballistic: with the current Everton it was a mere inconvenience.

was still lining up his wall,

It was the only thing to mar a good afternoon for Alex Ferteam down but they have remained unbeaten in six games spanning a period of 18 days and have qualified for the semifinals of the European and FA They have excelled them-

weeks of March would drag his

selves," Ferguson purred afterwards. "Now they can get their break with the international teams. Some will play,

sides of March.

challenge." So much for the

Manchester United (4-4-2): Schmeichel: G Neville, Berg, Stam. P Neville, Beckham (Greening, 70), Butt, Johnsen, Solskjær (Car-its, 90): Worke, Cole (Sheringham, 70). Sub-striktens wer unsel: Primary Van der Goust

Enerton (4-4-2): Myfre: Weir, Short, Materazzi, Bail; O'Kane (Jeffers, 60), Grant (Degn, 67), Dacourt, Unsworth: Hutchison, Balayoko (Cadonareri, 5), Sabasticutes not used; Walson, Simonsen fold

Strachan's victims of the class divide

TOLD OF Arsène Wenger's compliment - "Coventry worked extremely hard and passed well " Arsenal's manager had said - Gordon Strachan's eyes went upwards. "Not that old one about being too good to go down," he groaned.

Back in the old Pearl White routine, struggling to break free before the relegation express gets to them, Coventry can take heart from their efforts at Highbury. How, in the circumstances do vou cope when up against a team at short odds to win the Premiership and the FA Cup in successive seasons. when the difference in class is

At first sight, Coventry's sys-



KEN JONES

Coventry City

tem - five midfielders strung across a back four and Darren Huckerby as the lone attacker - may have looked negative to the extreme but it was not

without initiative. "They made accept that they are in a differthings very difficult for us," Wenger said, "and I was impressed with their movement."

While praise is heaped upon the most successful managers in English football, men such as Strachan, Jim Smith of Derby and Joe Kinnear at Wimbledon are the real heroes, working to do the best they can with comparatively modest resources. If Wenger saw a great deal of

merit in Coventry's effort, Strachan was philosophical. "Maybe if it had been able to put our best team (Noel Whelan and George Boateng were particularly missed) we might have given Arsenal more of a problem," Strachan added, "but I have to

ent league. Better players than we have, a sight richer. So it was about being brave, standing up to them." Even the denial of an obvious penalty in the first half when David Seaman impeded Stephen Froggatt did not anger Strachan as much as his renutation suggested. "It's happened to us so often that I no longer get worked up, but I

just wish that there had been

people out there as brave as my

players," he said pointedly. Because of injuries and susoensions Arsenal have seldom been able this season to put out their strongest team, so a rare sight of it was immediately encouraging for their supporters. Dixon was only on the field for 29 minutes and Ray Parlour's redeployment as an emergency right back had a damaging effect on Arsenal's enterprise.

Pariour's technical progress should result in selection for England against Poland next Saturday and was further evident when he put Arsenal ahead in the 16th minute with a low shot struck with the outside of his right foot. "I don't think he would have managed that a year ago," Wenger added.

Wenger added the point that Parlour had proved his versatility as Dixon's deputy but curtailment emphasised the importance of his urgent and

It did not last long. Lee thoughtful forays along Arsenal's right flank Without it Arsenal fell short

of their highest standards until sharpness returned after the interval. Even then there was little to cause excitement in an audience that now conveys the impression of being spoiled by recent achievements. The introduction of Nwankwo

Kanu for Nicolas Anelka, who played as though he were still unsure that his future is in north London, lifted things, Already something of a cult figure at Highbury the Nigerian immediately put his mark on the game with a confident dribble that made a goal for Marc Overmars in the 80th minute

When Wenger was asked for Kanu's most impressive qualities, he said: "Class and intelligence." Kanu, we were told, is putting in a great deal of effort to improve his fitness.

For now he gives Arsenal a stronger bench. Soon he may give them a problem in selection. It is one that Strachan would be more than happy to

WOULD DE MOTE LABI Nappy to accommodate.
Goales Partour [16] 1-0; Overmars (80) 2-0.
Arsenal [4-4-2]; Seaman; Dison (Ljungberg, 29), Kroom, Adams, Whiterburn: Portour, Vietra, Petit, Overmars (Diswara, 84), Bergsamp, Anelia (Kanu, 71), Sebasticuosa and assed; Bould, Mantienger (gk).
Coveratry, Cip (4-5-1), Hedman; Nisson [Edworthy, 69], Shaw, Kolik, Burrows, Teller, McAllister, Oulinn, Solivett (Gloxichini, 77), Froggatt; Huckerby Substitutes not usuali Clement. Deforge, Ogricowi (gk).
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Home improvements but no rest for Jones

HOME COMFORTS are all very well but Southampton's fifth consecutive victory at The Dell was not about to hill Dave Jones into a false sense of security. It was the five consecutive away defeats that most concerned the Saints manager on Saturday, and with good reason.

A week on and in his hour of victory Jones was still struggling to get his team's defeat at Middlesbrough out of his head. During his after-match press conference he kept returning to what he saw as a missed opportunity at the Riverside Stadium, which tells you what he thinks of Bryan Robson's under-achievers

Southampton's urgent need for a bright, new, shiny, moneymaking stadium of their own has been staring successive boards at The Dell in the face for years and, now that they arpear to have finally got one, at St Mary's, the danger is it will come too late to preserve their Premiership status after 21

years in the top flight. As Jones says: "The thing we've got in common with Manchester United is that we both sell out our grounds from day one each season." With a capacity of 15,000, what they have not got in common with United is the size of those sell-outs. must find an alternative before

By CLIVE WHITE

Sheffield Wednesday Such is the demand for season tickets that many Saints fans resigned themselves long ago to

If those same supporters are to watch Premiership football in the new stadium in three years' time, Southampton need to start picking up points away from home. Even if they were to win all four of their remaining home games it would still give them only 41 points and their next game at The Dell in a fortnight's time is against Arsenal, when they will be without the suspended Matt Le

watching reserve-team football.

Chris Marsden. Wednesday's problem is exactly the opposite: they have the stadium but lack the support. They also seem to lack the ambition. As Howard Wilkinson once famously said of them: They are a big city team with a small-town mentality."

Tissier, Hassan Kachloui and

Even with Benito Carbone back after suspension, their attack looked pitifully weak. With Michael Mols, the Utrecht striker they have been courting, set to join Rangers, Danny Wilson Thursday's transfer deadline or he may find himself returning to Oakwell next season.

This was their fourth consecutive defeat and if relegation is to creep up on any one this season it might just be Wednesday. They even forfeited their record of not having lost at The Dell in 29 years, although when Marsden tried to pass the ball into his own net after 22 minutes it looked as if they might come away with something.

The task was complicated by the loss of Andy Hinchcliffe with a back injury which could keep him out of England's European Championship qualifier against Poland on Saturday. And then Le Tissier - as ever came to Southamoton's aid with a header to Matthew Oakley's cross for what you might call a Matt finish. In fact, had a counle of audacious 30-yard strikes

had a gloss finish. Gest: Le lisser (41) 1-0

from the Channel Islander also

gone in, the win might even have

ssman (ch.) Ferres: R Harris (Banbury). Bookings: surhampton: Le Tissier, Kachlout, Marsden.

Frank Sinclair was, as they

Sinclair made to pay for lateness **Steve Tongue**

hears Leicester's manager account for his missing central defender

FRANK SINCLAIR missed yesterday's Worthington Cup final after being sent home as a disciplinary measure. A day that ended with Martin O'Neill's biggest disappointment as a manger had begun ominously with the difficult decision to banish the Leicester City defender from the team hotel for what O'Neill would only refer to as "a breach of club discipline".

The former Chelsea player, Leicester's record signing last summer at £1m. is believed to have turned up late for a team meeting. He has a poor disciplinary record down the years and O'Neill said: "Managers say everybody deserves five, six or seven chances but after 77 he'll blot his copy book. At the moment I'm not taking any further action." Sinclair was expected to play as one of the three centre-halves, but Gerry Taggart was brought in.

O'Neill felt that the day's other case of indiscipline, when Justin Edinburgh swatted Robbie Savage, turned the match against his team. "Robbie says he was hit and if you do that, you run the risk of being sent off. But it was probably the turning point against us because we were dominant at that time. I felt the numerical advantage would kick in in extra time."

If the few neutrals in the ground felt it was a wretched final, Leicester were perfectly happy with the way it panned out, until the very last minute.

O'Neill's view was: "In the first half one side negated the other but from a tactical viewpoint I was happy with it. But it is all about winning."

George Graham, back at one of his favourite grounds, and back in the business of collecting pots, agreed that the sending off did not adversely affect looked good with 10 men and still expected us to win," he said. "It wouldn't have bothered

me going to extra time." Graham began to hint before Christmas that he would like a trooby this year, but claimed yesterday that this one, and qualification for Europe, was a bonus: "I didn't expect to win a cup in my first season. That's why I'm here, to win things. The players have worked at it and knuckled down, there's too many good players, outstanding players, at Tottenham who've not won much."

That may have been a little dig at David Ginola, who seemed genuinely thrilled with his medal. "We were a little bit lucky, but sometimes you have to be lucky to win," he said. "I'm very proud to have won my first major trophy in my fourth season in English football. Last season we were in a very bad situation, but football is a team effort. Without being a tight unit you can't win a game like that."

Les Ferdinand, another talented performer with plenty of spare space in his trophy cabinet, said: "It wasn't the prettiest game but all that matters is having something in your hand to show your grandchildren. I've been around a long time and played with some good clubs and never played in a Wembley final. We are glad for Justin that he is going home with a medal."

Ferdinand was, however, guilty of the first declaration of any player that he was "over the moon".

For Edinburgh, it was an afternoon of mixed emotions, He said, after being sent on the long walk down the tunnel between the baying Leicester supporters: "I just prayed for the lads to pull through for me. I let them down. It was possibly the worst half hour of my life sitting in the

dressing room" Edinburgh thought he was harshly treated. "I was disappointed with the decision." he said. "It was a bad tackle which came in on myself and I got up and just pushed Robbie Savage away. I don't think I caught him, I don't think I threw a punch.

"It's difficult for me. I have a winner's medal in my hand but I perhaps feel I let a few people down.

say, unavailable for comment.

O'Leary's hallmark has authentic stamp

THE SATISFACTION WAS BY DERICK ALLSOP evident in his beaming countenance. David O'Leary may pour scorn on suggestions that his fledgling team could earn a place in the Champions' League, but he is prepared to acknowledge an achievement

many considered beyond his. and his players', capabilities. Even fourth place this season with the promise of better still the years ahead, defies the reasoned consensus of supporters and pundits alike when George Graham left for Tottenham and, after preferred candidates dropped out of the equation, O'Leary was even-

tually installed as manager. "Yes," he smiled, basking, however fleetingly, in the afterglow of Leeds' sixth consecutive league win. "A lot of people told me to get out because the club had gone as far as it could. They said I should learn my trade in the Third Division.

But I had worked here for two years. I knew what we'd got here. I knew the players, that they could only improve, I felt I could put my hallmark on it." This ramshackle Derby side

were in no state to gauge the

authenticity of O'Leary's prod-

Leeds United

among the continental élite is measure enough of a remark-

oned would be too nice, too naive, too gullible to shape a successful Premiership club, has not only taken on Graham's team another stage, he has also stepped clear of his mentor's shadow.

And now he looks further, to the day when he can eclipse Alex Ferguson and Arsène Wenger That is why he refuses to stand still, to wallow for long in the glory of his initial impact. In his restlessness to maintain the momentum, he plays

players to take on Manchester United and Arsenal, and he

Derby County

able development in our game. O'Leary, the man they reck-

down his squad's aspirations because he feels he needs more

will hammer home the message until he has what he wants. O'Leary has come this far largely without the assistance of David Batty, who missed Saturday's match because of flu, and it is difficult to comprehend why the Irishman should have uct, but Leeds' emergence as sought such a one dimensional

an array of effervescent, flexible talents. They play with joy and

bewildering movement. Derby were simply overwhelmed, despite being presented with an early lead, Lucas Radebe inexplicably taking Vassilis Borbokis's legs from beneath him. No arguments about Mike Reed's decision this time and Francesco

Bajano converted the penalty Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink might have given Leeds the advantage before making his decisive contributions to proceed ings. The Dutchman supplied the ammunition for Lee Bowyer and Willem Korsten to score and dispatched one of his own with characteristic conviction.

It appeared only boredom on Leeds' part averted an annihilation. They simply toyed with the wretched, wounded creature at their mercy, delaying the final blow until five minutes from the end, an extravagant 25-yard effort from Ian Harte. Derby contributed to their

injury to Igor Stimac compounded the torment. "We simply couldn't cope with a threat to Chelsea's position player when he is blessed with having so many players out."

own demise with strangely in-

effectual defending. Horacio

Carbonari and Spencer Prior

had a torrid afternoon and an



O'Leary: Out of shadow

but couldn't hold on to the lead. in the end they just overran us." Manchester United and Arsenal still have to visit Elland Road, while Stamford Bridge is on Leeds' travel schedule. All are potentially titanic encoun-

of O'Leary's progress. be in for a game here."

Goals: Balano (pen 4) 0-1; Bowyer (17) 1-1;
Hassebaink (31) 2-1; Korsten (44) 3-1; Hane (65) 4-1.

Smith said. "We got a goal start

ters, and genuine barometers "We'll give anybody a game," O'Leary concluded confidently. United here will be a good game, and they know they will

(85) 4-1.
Landa United (4-4-2): Marryn; Haaland,
Woodgate, Radebe, Harte: Bowyer, Hopkin,
McPhall, Kersten (Jones, 88); Hasselbahk,
Kewell, Sainstitutus suc mandr Wetherall,
Ribeiro, Haile, Robinson (gk).
Derby Cosmity (3-4-1-2-1): Poort: Stimac (Elikort, 40). Cartonnari, Prior; Laursen,
Bohtnen (Jaunders, 78); Powell, Borbokis:
Bakano (Christie, h-tj; Harper, Burton, Sal-schwitzen mot seposit Hould; Ggi), Robinson,
Bartersee M. Reed (Ermingham), Broditinges Leuder Hasland, Hopkin, Darbyr Balano,
Prior.

Footy hype rivals Oscars

ARE YOU like me? Square-eyed from all this footy on the box? A channel hopper virtuoso? Great life, isn't it? Why, no less an aficionado than Alan Shearer reckons there'll never be a better time to be a couch potato.

Take the other night. A choice of 78 live games plus the classic footy film Escape to Victory. Not to mention a chilling Alan Hansen exposé about Taribo West's barber. Some night for us footy vegeta-

Or was it? You see, being a bit of a film buff, I chose Escape to Victory.

The special Widescreen Edition it was. You know. The one that manages to squeeze in the whole of Mike Summerbee's nose. Anyway, as Mike and his follow pros were busy giving a good, honest account of themselves, it struck me how sharply their massuming demeanour contrasted with the attitudes and glamorous lifestyles of today's prima donnas. How, within the space of a few years, the game has been transformed beyond recogni-

I mean, can you believe it was only as recently as the mid-1080s that a player such as Everton's Mick Pejic was in the running for the prize of Britain's Most Handsome Footballer. Okay, so it's true the chairman of the judging panel was the legendary Blues icon, Blind Lemon Sole. And they reckon he would have awarded first prize to a pot-bellied pig, provided it was wearing an Everton

Even so, how starkly it demonstrates the way perceptions have changed. I mean, these days you'd be more likely to find our Mick gurning his way across Westmorland than striding the beauty circuit. It's not just the changes,

though. What is also rife these days is the hype. Take the current Luvvies' darling, Vinnie

Now, I've nothing against the guy, but I ask he's going to blow Al Pacino out of Hollywood? Are we truly looking to Vinnie to clean up at next year's Oscars? I mean, come on. If you ask me, I doubt very much whether even Bernard Bresslaw is looking over his shoulder, let alone Al Pacino. And poor old Bernard's been dead for six years.

Let's face it, if simply wearing a leather overcoat and snarling a few times at old ladies qualified you as a movie star, then our milkman would have made it to Hollywood years ago. And he was a pretty tidy footballer, too.

No, the way I see it, Vinnie's best ever chance of landing a meaty role was that time he grabbed hold of Gazza by the bollocks. And even then he let the opportunity slip through his fingers.

And what about golden boy David Beckham? Pretentious or what? Naming your baby after a bridge. Where do these people come from? So they made love dangling over the Hudson River. Big deal.

Let's be honest, it's all gone a bit far, hasn't it? The next thing you know every footy fan will be talking like Garth Crooks and pretending they're experts on current affairs. And do you know what? I'm not sure I want to be around when we get to that stage.

ALAN EDGE

Beckham in doubt for Poland

DAVID BECKHAM'S participa- BY ALAN NIXON tion in England's European Championship qualifier against Poland on Saturday is in doubt after he was substituted with a calf injury during Manchester United's 3-1 win over Everton vesterday.

The England coach, Kevin Keegan, will also find out today whether David Batty will be fit to link up with the rest of the squad. The tenacious midfielder has only just returned to the Leeds line-up after three months out with a broken rib.

England will not find many familiar faces in the Polish team. Only two members of the side that lost 2-1 to England in

a World Cup qualifier in October 1996 remain in the squad named yesterday.

There is no place in the squad for striker Marek Citko, who scored against England. nor for Artur Wichniarek, the leading scorer in the Polish First Division this season.

Ryan Giggs is a serious doubt for Wales's European Championship qualifier against Switzerland after succumbing to a hamstring injury. The winger missed Manchester United's game yesterday and, although he will report to the Welsh squad, he is unlikely to play.

"It's for them to decide his fitness," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said, "but I think he'll be doubtful."

The Republic of Ireland's crucial European Championship qualifier in Macedonia, scheduled for Skopje on Saturday, remains in doubt because of the political situation in the

With 10,000 Nato troops assembling in Skopje and the threat of Nato bombardment in ighbouring Kosovo, the Football Association of Ireland has been in constant communication with Europe's governing body, Uefa, and the Republic's Department of Foreign Affairs. are being killed in that part of

ers, officials and supporters is of paramount importance," the FAI Chief Executive, Bernard O'Byrne, said. "It is a matter of deep concern that our flight path on Thursday is through

Yugoslavian airspace. Uefa have already told us that the situation regarding our hotel is not conducive for players preparing for such a vital European Championship match." The Republic coach, Mick McCarthy, will continue his preparations as usual, with his squad assembling in Dublin

"It's a tragedy that people

Carthy said. "But I have to prepare my team for a football match until I hear of any postponement from the people who make those decisions."

Mark Viduka has accused people in "high places" at Celtic of "making problems" with the payment of his transfer fee to oatia Zagreb.

Celtic are unwilling to pay the Sim fee in full because of apparent concerns that Zagreb will not distribute the money propexiy. World football's governing body, Fifa, is to decide on the matter. The Scottish champions have paid £900,000 so far.

Zagreb, but some people in high places at Celtic are making problems," Viduka said. "Maybe it's in their own interests, maybe they don't want to pay money for me. People here are trying to put

words in my mouth." Sunderland have signed Carsten Fredgaard, but Lyng-by's Danish Under-21 international will not arrive until the end of the season.

Fredgaard has signed a fouryear contract after his club accepted a £1.5m fee. Fredgaard, who can play up front or in an attacking midfield role, is considered one of the best prospects currently playing in Danish football.

second-worst current Brazilian footballer in a newspaper poli. The Corinthians player Mirandinha "won" the poll with 130 votes, but Ronaldo, twice voted world player of the year,

Voted World player of the year, Came second with 73 votes, Poland Souad European Chattar, orthin qualifier v England, Manchit Gollkesperr: Matyant (1647) Levi tures. Shoreon Sharpont (1647) Levi tures. Shoreon Sharpont (1647) Levi tures. Shoreon Sharpont (1647) Levi tures. Sharpont (1647) Levi tures. Sharpont (1647) Levi tures. Sharpont (1647) Levi tures. Halpen (1659) Dutshurgi. Sak (Cipropone 1900). Lapinate (Matree Levi). Ledinate (1648) We shap Mid-nedders: Majak (1447) Rossock (Macadi Halder). Necessis (147) Matter (167) Levi tures. Sharpont (167) Le



Matias Almeyda (right) rises above Venezia's Salvatore Miceli during Lazio's 2-0 Serie A victory at the Olympic Stadium in Rome yesterday

Lucescu abandons Inter quest

FOR THE second time this season, Internazionale are looking for a new coach, after Mircea side's humiliating Italian League 4-0 defeat at Sampdoria yesterday. Vincenzo Montella's hat-trick and a fourth from the Argentine playmaker Ariel Ortega proved too much for Lucescu, just four days after Inter's elimination from the European Cup against Manchester United.

Lucescu arrived at Inter in December as a short-term replacement for the sacked Gigi Simoni. The Romanian coach and had already announced he ROUND-UP

the champions last month, has been linked to Inter - but a deal has not yet been confirmed by the club or the coach.

The Serie A leaders Lazio made short work of Venezia yesterday, with two goals in the opening 15 minutes from Sergio Conceicão and the freekick specialist Sinisa Mihajlovic sealing their eighth successive victory at the Olympic stadium

Lazio's early nerves were agreed a seven-month contract settled by Conceicão, who netwas leaving at the end of the Favalli's eighth-minute cross. season. The former Juventus Mihajlovic, who has now scored 2-2 draw for the home side.

seven of his eight goals this sea-son direct from free-kicks, finalists, Juventus, looked des-from their goalkeeper Ulrich a goal -82 minutes without conceding minute to ensure that Lazio equalled last season's club record of 16 league matches

vithout defeat. Fiorentina recovered from the second-half dismissal of their Czech defender. Thomas Repka, to beat Piacenza 2-1 with a last-minute goal from Carmine Esposito.

Milan's title hopes looked doomed when Yksel Osmanovski's second goal of the match put Bari 2-1 up with 11 minutes left at San Siro but over Strasbourg on Saturday. ted with a volley from Giuseppe Maurizio Ganz's injury-time penalty salvaged a fortuitous

added a superb second from a tined for their first defeat in Rame as they struggled to Oliver Reck, who held the precoach, Carlo Ancelotti, when Marco Delvecchio headed Roma in front in the second half. But the defender Mark Iuliano equalised from close range and it took a superb dou-

ble save from the visitor's Austrian goalkeeper, Michael Konsel, to deny Juve's Nicola Amoruso a late winner. Bordeaux clung to their onepoint lead over Marseilles in the two-horse race for the French

title with a tight 1-0 home win After taking an 11th-minute lead through their captain Michel Pavon, Bordeaux were

their 6-0 midweek Uefa Cup thrashing at Parma.

Marseilles, inspired by two goals from Fabrizio Ravanelli, enjoyed a 4-1 home victory over 10-man Lorient, whose goalkeeper Angelo Hugues was sent off in the first half for handling a shot by Florian Maurice outside the area.

The goalkeeper Oliver Kahn set a German Bundesliga record on Saturday as Bayern Munich profited from a late goal from Carsten Jancker to beat Werder Bremen 1-0 to record their eighth successive league

vious league record with 641 minutes for Werder Bremen in the 1987-88 season.

The Spanish League leaders, Barcelona, were grateful to their Dutch World Cup midfielder, Philip Cocu, whose two goals secured a 2-0 win at Real Sociedad yesterday.

Celta Vigo enjoyed a 3-0 win at home to Santander but Real Mallorca were beaten 2-1 at home by Deportivo La Coruna John Toshack's Real Madrid side ground out their third successive league win, 2-0 against Extremadura, thanks to Raul's 18th league goal of the season victory. Kahn has now gone and an own goal.

Sorry Hearts hit rock. bottom

SCOTTISH ROUND-UP

BY DAVID MCKINNEY

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HOW THE mighty have fallen. Heart of Midlothian, the Scottish Cup holders, the club that gave everyone else hope by keeping pace with Celtic and Rangers last season, are now tasting life at the other end of the League.

While the Glasgow giants continue their annual title battle, the epic deeds of last season at Tynecastle are being submerged by waves of self doubt, Hearts are bottom of the Premier League after Saturday's 2-0 defeat at Dundee.

Their situation can be highlighted by the fact they have to still to score their first goal of 1999. Their latest defeat gave Dundee four wins out of four against Jim Jefferies' side this season and, although another three clubs could be considered part of the relegation battle. Dunfermline, Dundee United and Dundee appear to possess the necessary fighting qualities.

That view was endorsed by Jefferies, who said: "We are trying to play too much football and it's costing us. I don't think Dundee played better than us but they had the players to fight and dig out a result."

Hearts' predicament has not been helped by the sales of David Weir and Neil McCann, two of their most influential players. News of Hearts' defeat was received with joy at Easter Road, where Hibernian were beating Airdrie 3-0 to take another step towards the First Di vision title.

The Hibs' fans, who saw their side relegated last season while Hearts lifted the Cup, would gladly forego the Edinburgh derby match for another season if it meant that the clubs replaced each other in

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their respective leagues. Dundee United and Dunfermline demonstrated the battling qualities that could preserve their status, with United securing an unlikely 1-0 win at Ibrox against Rangers, the League leaders, while Dunfermline won by the same margin at home to St Johnstone.

Todd left looking to heavens

THE MEETING of the two most BY SCOTT BARNES restless spirits that live in the Hades between Premiership survival and Nationwide midtable mundanity ended with Sunderland all but certain of ascending while the best Bolton can hope for is the purgatory of

proved that there is a gulf between the divisions, with Nottingham Forest and Charlton at the bottom of the Premiership," the Bolton manager Colin Todd. whose side were relegated last year by goal difference, said. "If we get there I'm going to have to spend money again, but just spending money doesn't guarantee staying there - you have to spend wisely."

Bolton Wanderers the play-offs.
"This season has again

vision because they have seesawed so often, but Bolton were unable to change the course of a match which suggested that Sunderland are better equipped for survival than either club has

been in recent years. This is the first time in four years that the two clubs have

Although Thomas Sorensen.

Peter Schmeichel's Danish deputy in goal, provides a solid backdrop, much of Sunderland's confidence must be in the exuberance of their attacking. Chris Makin and Michael Gray are adept defenders but they come alive when going forward. Gray's overlapping down the left is persistent and Makin. for the second time in consecutive home games, made a afterwards.

goal with precision passing. Lee Clark is the creative fulcrum in midfield, spraying

cross-field balls to the wingers. Allan Johnston caught the eye on Saturday with two goals but Nicky Summerbee down the right has been the more consistent performer, floating in crosses for Niall Quinn. The giant Irishman will be 33 when next season kicks off but has Kevin Phillips to do his leg work. In the 23rd minute Quinn's glance from a long clearance sent Phillips away to neatly score his 15th goal in a season that has been shortened

by four months due to injury. "I'm disappointed with the injury as I could have beaten the 35 goals I scored last season because we're creating so many chances," Phillips said

"I am desperate to play in the Premiership. I have proved myself in the First Division and I want to step up again, like I did when I came here from Watford, and prove myself there. The Premiership is the pot of gold that keeps us going."

Such determination is driving Sunderland to the end of the rainbow despite already being 12 points clear and winning their 10th consecutive home game on Saturday. "In the dressing room before the game I felt they were up for it and desperate to get out. In that situation you don't need a team talk," Peter Reid, whose side was defeated in the play-off final on penalties last year,

It was no wonder, then, that when he was told that the result had mathematically secured them a place in this year's play-offs, a look came over his face as if he had just woken up in Hell.

Goals: Phillips 23 (1-0); Johnston, 28 (2-0); Frandsen 49 (2-1); Johnston, 55 (3-1). Septierland (4-4-2): Sorensen; Makin, Mehille, Craddock, Gray, Summerbee, Ball,



Pearson to leave Premier League early we are acting decisively to protect the interests of the League pany after being informed by the has taken steps to safeguard the League that he will not be recommercial arrangements of and our sponsors."

THE PREMIER LEAGUE'S commercial director Stephen Pearson is not being allowed to serve out a three-month notice after previously tendering his resignation. Confirmation comes in the aftermath of the forced resignations of the league's chairman Sir John Quinton and its chief executive Peter Leaver:

quired to serve out his term. His No 2, Malcolm Crease, is also

found themselves in the same di-

leaving his post. Both men will be paid for the remainder of the contracts although they will not be return- have ensured that our coming to the London offices of the Premier League at any stage. as a result of recent events and

the Premier League," a Premier League spokesman, Mike Lee, said. "We are continuing to look at the activities of the outgoing commercial department. We

mercial partners will not suffer

Leaver and Quinton were both forced out of office on earlier this month after awarding contracts to two television consultants, Sam Chisholm and David Chance, without telling the Premier League's 20 chair

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THAT WAS THE **WEEKEND THAT WAS**

EDITED BY JON CULLEY



Uplifting tale of Ryan and the Rovers revival

SPARE A minute or two? Drag your eyes away from what is going on at the top of the Premiership and take a look at the Nationwide Conference table. At the bottom, to be more specific. And ask yourself this: what happened to Doncaster Rovers?

Didn't they used to be there, rock solid on the bottom rung, destined to fall like a stone from the Third Division to the UniBond League in little over 12 months of nightmare decline? Not any more. Nowadays, you need to look almost to halfway in the Conference chart to find Ian

Snodin's team. Given their recent history it is a remarkable transformation The recovery owes much to

Snodin, but something also to the new men in the boardroom, led by the businessman John Ryan, whose Cheshirebased company enjoys one of the more unusual claims to fame as the supplier of breast implants to Melinda Messenger. After the club's horren-dous times under the now-jailed Ken Richardson, Ryan has provided Rovers with an uplift they scarcely thought possible.

Fans cycle 180 miles to see 'home' game

HOW DID you get to the match this weekend - bus? train? car? aeroplane? Possibly even by bicycle, although probably not if your starting point was 180 miles away.

That particular obstacle, however, did not deter one group of intrepid Scunthorpe United supporters, who decided to cycle to their team's home match against Leyton Orient at Glanford Park starting outside the opposi- . and we were given free tickets tion's ground in East London. for the game."

The journey was not simply an act of eccentricity on the part of Ian Tremayne, Chris Vaughan, Roly Roberts and Paul Rhodes. It had a worthy purpose, to raise money for cancer research. The quartet, 58, are all members of the

Scunthorpe United Loudon and South-East Supporters Club. They chose the Orient fixture in memory of John Birkett, their former chairman, who died of cancer last May. His home was just yards from Brisbane Road.

The cyclists exceeded their £3,000 target by more than 50 per cent. "The club have been brilliant," Tremayne said. "All the directors made donations

Orient's chairman Barry Hearn made a contribution, too, presenting the quartet with a signed shirt, while Cambridge United allowed them to stage a collection in the Abbey Stadium's social whose ages ranged from 29 to club when the ride passed through on Friday evening.

lustrated in the unveiling of a new signing in Saturday's 4-1 defeat of now-bottom Welling United in front of almost 3,000 fans. This was not some ex-pub league no-hoper, but a 20-year-old winger dubbed the "new Ryan Giggs"

in non-League circles. Rovers paid £25,000 to Garforth Town, pipping Middles-brough and Bolton Wanderers among others, to get Andy Watson, who then scored or his debut. He may not yet feel like the new Giggs, but Rovers must feel like Manchester United.

KEY NUMBERS The sequence of consecutive ome defeats suffered by Aston Vaa, beaten 3-0 by Cheisea

The sequence of consecutive wins enjoyed by Leeds United following Saturday's defeat of Derby, their best run since the Revie era.

The number of falled attempts by Middlesbrough to defeat Nottingham Forest before Sat-urday's win at the City Ground.

I TOLD YOU SO

Another win, over Middlesbrough, and a few results falling our way will really put the pressure on those teams above us.

Nottingham Forest's manager, Ron Atkinson, describing precisely what did not happen to his side's survival chances on Saturday.

PREMIERSHIP TEAM OF THE WEEK

RAY PARLOUR **ROBBIE STOCKDALE**

KEN MONKOU

MARIO KONUSC

Coventry City

IAN HARTE Leeds United

HARRY KEWELL

PAOLO DI CANIO

TORE ANDRE FLO

LEE BOWYER

ace of the seek: Blackburn Rovers - bouncing back to reverse their drift towards relegation

making it... and mistaken Missing...



DEREK LILLEY LEEDS UNITED

THE former Greenock Morton striker has been frustrated at every turn in his attempts to win a first-team place at Elland Road, slipping down the pecking order behind new signings and developing youngsters. Without a senior start in two seasons, reports suggest the 25-year-old could join Norwich this week with

Leeds getting back the

£500,000 they paid for him on

deadline day in 1997.



ROBBIE STOCKDALE MIDDLESBROUGH

BRYAN ROBSON has been accused of failing to back the younger members of his Middlesbrough squad, but 19-year-old Stockdale looks to be the exception to the rule. The locally-born wing-back made a solitary league start last season but has recently established himself on the right side of defence at the Riverside, clocking up his 16th

appearance at Nottingham

WORTHINGTON CUP

FINAL

FA CARLSBERG VASE SEMI-FINALS SECOND LEG

con Und (31-67): 8 Purfleet (35-60).
UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Defision:
Bamber Bridge O Albrincham 1: Bishop
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Chorley O: Cohwan Bay O Guissely 0: Frichley 3 Hyde Utd 0: Galasborough Whitly 0
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Whitby 0 Runcorn 0: Worksop 3 LancastreCRy 0. Landing positions: 1 Albrincham
(P32, PS52); 2 Gateshead (35-60); 3 Bamber Bridge (35-60).
DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Disslows Bath 3 Atherstone 1: Boston Utd 2
Weymouth 1: Bromsgrone 2 Cambridge
City 1: Dorchester 0 Jameorth 1: Gouccster 0 Burton Alblom 1: Gresley Rovers 1
Crawley 1: Hassings 1 King's Lynn 0: Ibeston 2 Halesowen 2; Mcrthyr Tydfil 1
Grantham 0: Nomeabon Borough 2 Wordester 0. Ladding positions: 1 Nuréabon
(P35, Pts76); 2 Gioucester (35-61); 3 likespon (34-55).
LEAGUE OF MALES: Afan Lido 3 TNS

Forest on Saturday.



MARK BOSNICH

HAVING perfected his impersonation of athlete Steve



SECOND DIVISION

Cram, Chelsea's versatile goalscorer has now added the American entertainer Danny Kaye to his repertoire although, with cutting down his legs not an option. the Norwegian striker has to pretend to be wearing stilts under his trousers.



Magpies linked with Larsson raid

WITH DEADLINE DAY koom- 18m on Leicester's Emile ing the biggest money may be Heskey this summer as insplashed out by Newcastle, according to the Sunday Mirror, which believes Ruud Gullit is poised to launch an £8m bid to land Celtic's Larsson, who has 35 goals to his credit so far this scason. Middlesbrough could emerge as the big spenders in the People's view, with a £5.5m swoop for the West Bromwich

striker Lee Hughes. The Mirror says Liverpool will offer £5m for Celtic's former Bolton centre-back Alan Stubbs, who has also been a target for Aston Villa, but the People says Gérard Houllier has missed out on Finnish striker Jari Litmanen, who has opted to leave Ajax for Barcelona. The Express reckons Houllier's sights are now on the Czech striker Vladimir Smicer, rated at £5m by his French club, Lens, and also a target for Internazionale and

Paris St-Germain. The People also reports plans by Arsenal to spend

surance should homesick Nicolas Anelka be tempted to return to France, but says Tottenham will pip them in the chase for Peterborough's prolific goalscorer, Henrik 17-year-old winger Matthew Etherington. The Mail on Sunday says

Manchester United have a summer spending spree in mind with Alex Ferguson looking to sign three Dutchmen - the Real Madrid midfielder Clarence Seedorf. Barcelona's Ronald de Boer and the Ajax goalkeeper Edwin van der Saar - at a combined cost of 230m. The Mirror says Monaco want United's current No 1. Peter Schmeichel, as replacement for the Milan-bound Fabien Barthez.

The Mail on Swiday and Express both say Juninho is eager to join Leeds United, while the News of the World claims Nottingham Forest want David Pleat to take over from Ron Atkinson as man ager before next season.

SEEN AND HEARD

OLD-FASHIONED LOGIC: "We probably scored too early" - Jim Smith explains Derby County's 4-1 defeat at

LANGUAGE COACH: "I think the chaps know the pressure is on now" - Gianluca Vialli becomes the first Italian manager to describe his players as chaps. That's what talking to Ray Wilkins does for you. ENJOY IT WHILE IT LASTS: "He's not how people maybe

see him - he's made a big mistake but he's over that now I never thought he was a gamble" - The West Ham manager, Harry Redknapp, drooks over Paolo di Canio.

BANK OF SCOTLAND

PREMIER LEAGUE

SCOTTISH

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

1		-				Hor	me				. Aw	ay			5-game form	
		Pf	Pts	GĐ	W	Đ	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Most recent on right	Upcoming matches
1	Man Utd	30-	63:	+37_	11	· 4/_	11	38	-16 ⋅	-7	5-	.7	30	15	DWWW	3 April Antiento (4): 17 April et (4): 25 April 2015 (4): 1 May Aston (4): (4)
2	Arsenai	30	59	+29	10	5	0	26	4	6	6	3	16	9	MDMMM	3 Apr Southempton (A): 6 Apr Blackburn (A); 15 Apr Wimbledon (A): 24 Apr Middleboo (A).
3	Chelsea	29	56	171	9	5	11	21	9.	6	Б.,	2	23	14	MONTH IN	3 Aprillation (4:5 Aprillation) 18 Apr
4	Leeds	30	54	+22	10	3	2	27	7	5	6	4	22	20	WWWWW.	3 Apr Norm Forest (H; 5 Apr Chelsen (A): 12 Apr Liverpool (H): 17 Apr Cherton (A).
5#	West Ham	30	46	≟ -5_	9.	3.	3	<u>, 12</u>	19	4	4	Ī	.12	20.	DWILLIA	2 Apir Asio: Mis Pk 5 Apir Chellon \$1; 10 Ap Telester \$1; 17 Apir Desky \$1.
6.	Aston Villa	30	44	+2	8	.2	5	25	24	4	6	5	14	13	DITT	2 Apr West Ham (4): 5 Apr Lecester (4): 16 Apr Southempton (4): 17 Apr Live pool (4).
7:	Derby	30 :	44	. 0	7-,	5	-3	18	_ 15 =	4-	6≅	- 5 ÷	14	17 -	IDMMI	3 Aprillestade (H; 10 Aprilletta Forst (H; 17 Aprillest Hry VI; 24 Aprillettation (H).
8	Wimbledon	30	40	-10	7	5	3	19	15	3	5.	7	15	29	DWILL	3 Apr Man Uzi (4); 5 Apr Middesho (A); 10 Apr Octos (4); 19 Apr Assaul (4).
9	Literpool	28₌	39	115	I		بازرد	33	76	۹,	- 2	9	19	21	MINIT	3 Age Beston (+); 5 Apr House Force (4): 12 Apr Legis (4): 17 Apr April 1884 (+);
10	Tottenham	29	39	0	7	6	.2	24	17	2	6	6	10	17	DDWIJW	3 Apr Lebester (+); 5 Apr Novcastle (4); 17 Ap Novem Forest (A); 20 Apr Clerkon (4).
ÍÍ	Middlesbro	29	39	1	5	8	1	19	-10	4	-4	7	20	30-	IDLWW	3 Apr Backton (A: 5 Apr Virgheston (4: 10 Apr Carlos (4: 14 Apr Carlos (4)
12	Nemcastle	30	38	-3	7	3	5	22	19	3	5	7	16	22	LDWILL	3 Apr Deby (A): 5 Apr Totastern (+1): 17 Apr Exerton (+1; 21 Apr Shelf Wed (A).
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14	Leicester	28	34	-9	5	4	5	19	21	3	6	5	9	16	TTTMD	3 Apr Totasham (A); 5 Apr Aston Vila (A); 10 Apr West Ham (H); 18 Apr Chebza (A).
15	Coventry	30	31	=17	6	-57	4	20	16	2	2	13 -	11	26÷	LWWD1.	3. Apr Staff Web (4): 5 Apr Staffengeon (4): 11 Apr Beach (4): 17 Apr Madasho (4).
	Everton	30	31	-12	3	8	4	9	9	4	2	9	14	26	LDWILL	3 Apriliespool (A); 5 Aprilies Wed (H); 11 Aprilies (H); 17 Aprilies Wed (H).
7	Blackburn	30	30	-10	6	3	- 6	19	19	1	6	8	13	23	TTIDM	3 Aprikidesho (4: 6 Aprilespo) (4: 17 Apr Soutempios (4: 24 Aprilespo) (4.
18	Southampton	30	29	-28	7	2	6	22	22	1	3	11	6	34	LUMUW	3 Apr Asersi (+): 5 Apr Coentry (4); 10 Apr Aston Villa (4): 17 Apr Bizalbum (+).
19	Chariton	29	28	7.7	4	5	.5	18	13	2	3	-8	15	27	MAIDLD	3 Aper Chesco (14: 5 Aper View Hom (4): 10 Aper Mitchester (4): 17 Aper Leads (14.
20	Nortm Forest	30	20	-32	1	6	8	13	28	3	2	10	14	31	LDLWL .	3 Aprileds (A): 5 Aprilheppol (H): 10 Apr Deby (A): 17 Aprilozentam (H).

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4 Birmingbam	38	68	59	10	7	2	29	12	9	4	6	30	. 19	DWWWD	2 Apr Crose (A); 3 Apr Crose (A); 5 Apr Web- land (A); 10 Apr Selector (A).
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8 Watford	38	54	54	11	7.	·	36	19:-	3.	- 5	11.	-18	41 .	CHOMM	Mindmedday Normick # 3 Apr CPR (A): 5 Apr Swindon (11): 10 Apr Sunteners (A):
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FOOTBALL RESULTS

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Rocterdam 0 PSV Endhouen 5; Ajax 0
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Feyenbord 1 Leading posalidoses; 1
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[25-50]; 3 PSV Eindhouen (25-46).

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BEILGIAN LEAGUE: Standard Liège 3 Club Bruges 0: Ostend 0 Germinal Electen 1: Lokeren 2 Lommel 1: Llerse 6 St-Trulden 0: Genk 3 Excessior Mouseron 0: Ghent 2 Wesserlo 0: Hareflecle 1 Anderlecht 2; Beweran 0: Landing positions: 1 Racing Genk (P27, Ph\$9): 2 FC Bruges (27-55): 3 Excessior Mouseron (27-49).

POURTUSUESE LEAGUE: Maritime 1 Sporting Lisbon 3: Boavista 1 Vitoria Setudal 2 Salgueins 1 Porto 3: Belra Mar 1 Rio Ave 2: Forense 1 Estrela de Amadora 1: Guimerées 1 Academica Colmbra 1: Braga 0 Campontalorense 2: Alverta 3 Chaves 1; Unido Lerta 1 Benfica 1.

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SPANISH LEAGUE: Espanyol 1 Arbieric Bilbao 1: Alaves 2 Arlenco Madnd 0: Mallora 1 Deporturo de la Coruña 2: Ouledo 0 Vallodolid 0: Real Socieda 0 Barcelona 2: Salamanca 1 Betis 3. Celua 2 Desirio 1 Desirio

TODAY'S FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE

RYMAN LEAGUÉ Premier Division: Da-genham ér Redbridge v Dulwich Humle: First Division: Hitchin v Whyteleafe. Hyde Utd v Frickley Unifilia First Divi-sion Cop semi-final second leg: Rad-cliffe Borough v Ashton.

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division:
Blackburn v Derby (7.0). Stoke v Manchester Utd (7.0). First Division: Wolves
v Grimsby (7.0). Second Division: Lincoln City v Shrewsbury (2.0). Sheffield Utd
v Scarborough (2.0). Third Division:
Cartiste v Chesterfield (2.0). Langue Cap
semi-final: Transfere v Rotherham (7.15).
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION
Place Division: Arsenal v Malwall (2.0) (cf.
Boreham Wood): Chetsea v Reading (7.0):
Northampton v Brentford (7.0).

King Of The World by David Remnick Random House, \$35 hardback



THERE WERE times in heavyweight boxing when the high wisdom of people such as Eugenia Williams was not needed.

This was the early 1960s, when Sonly Liston was knocking over the frightened Floyd Patterson and the big bear himself was then stopped consecutively by two fighters called Cassius Clay and Muhammad Ali, who fought almost identically. No wonder Liston got confused.

It is a brief era, and the only era, covered by this book, so browsers who see just Ali's face on the cover and title "King Of The World" should not get as bemused as old Sonny.

It is not the intention, but this is a sad story. Patterson is characterised as a frightened scrapper. Liston locked in the unforgiving knuckles of the Mafia and, of course, Ali is Ali. These men, you remember,

are supposed to be the winners. The rheumy eyes will get pleasure from this as Remnick denicts Ali in the days when he almost made you believe in the great boxing falsehood: that this is an art or application wherein a man can hit but not be hit, the sweet science.

As the author himself points out, these preliminary deeds of Ali are about as relevant to anyone under 40 as Agincourt might be. The Greatest can no longer smile and he speaks haltingly. It is a cruel affliction for one so formerly eloquent. "I don't intend to leave it [boxing] with ugly souvenirs of my ca-reer," he once announced. "I won't retire from boxing with cuts, cauliflower ears and a busted nose.

"I'll leave boxing physically intact, just as I am now, I will do this because my style of boxing protects me from cuts and injuries, yet it wins. I beat my opponents, you might say, gently."

There is a brief audience with the Ali of today, brief because that is all he can manage now. In this conversation, he closes his eyes and drifts off, probably to better days. It is easier, if not morally correct, to remember him in healthier times.

There is further reference to the modern day and, as the life and career of Liston is analysed, it is striking how much he compares to a present fighter: the early deprivation. the installation of fear into his opponents and the downfall once his bullying was exposed. Mike Tyson better be careful. Sonny Liston died at age 38. RICHARD EDMONDSON

Random House Inc. New York, NY 10022, USA, www.randomhouse.com

TOP TEN BOOKS

1 BBC Radio 5 Live Sports Year-book 1999, edited by Peter Nichols (Oddball, paperback, £14.00). 2 Rothmans Rugby League Year-book 1999. Raymond Fletcher (Headline, paperback, £17.99). 3 Tear Gas and Ticket Tours, Eddy Brimson (Headline, paperback,

4 Football Memories, Brian 5 Raceform Horses in Training 1999 (Raceform, paperback, £13.99). 6 Virgin Formula 1 1999 Pocket Annual (Virgin, paperback, £5.99). 7 Conquests and Crises – The 1998 Tour de France, Velo News (Velo Press, paperback, £16.95). 8 Bold Warnie – Shane Warne and Australia's Rise to Cricket Dom-inance, Roland Perry (Random House Australia, hardback, £21.95). 9 Playing For Keeps – Michael Jordan and the World He Made. David Halberstam (Random House USA, hardback, £21.50).

10 Ka Mate! Ka Mate! New Zealand's Conquest of British Rugby, Spiro Zavos (Viking NZ. oack, £14.95).

Compiled by Sportspages: 94-96 Char-ing Cross Road, London, 0171 240 9604 and St Apple Sports Management 015 www.sportspages.co.ul

Thorpe ready to take his place on England's World Cup stage



Derek Pringle talks to an international cricketer keen to turn winter frustration into summer celebration

SPRING IS here and the countdown to the cricket season, plus that promised carnival of cricket, the World Cup, has begun. But if mother nature allows things to unfurl gradually at this time of year, England's one-day squad are off next Sunday to stretch their limbs in Pakistan and Shariah as a curtain-raiser to the main event. An early flowering will be crucial for those teams eager to bear fruit in early June, when the competition comes

Fastidious preparation is crucial these days, though for players like Graham Thorpe, Surrey's skilled and doughty left-handed batsman, there is much more at stake. Thorpe, along with three other members of the World Cup squad. Michael Atherton, Neil Fairbrother and Ian Austin, have all recently been in the wars. For them, Sharjah, where England play India and Pakistan twice each for the Coca-Cola Cup, is both a warm-up and a final fitness test.

"I'm really looking forward to Sharjah massively," says Thorpe, a man who rarely fakes enthusiasm for the sake of it. "After working and training a lot indoors to overcome my back problems, I'm sure to be a little apprehensive at loading the body under match conditions again. But outdoors is where the skills of the game are best used and where they count most, so I can't wait to

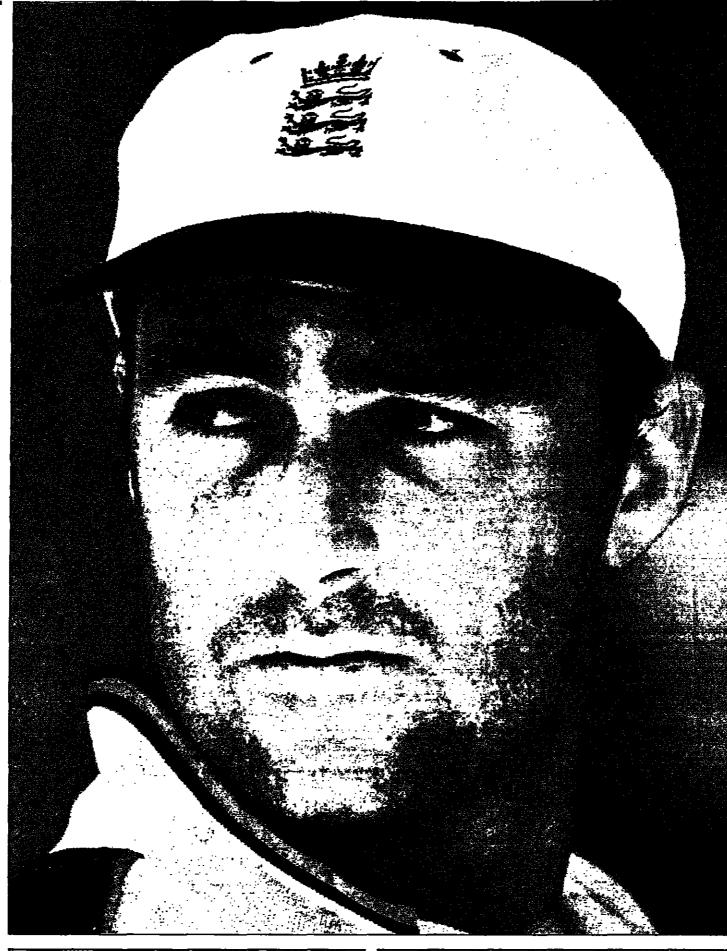
Thorpe's problem, which forced him to abandon England's Ashes tour midway through, was a general lack of stability in his lower back. At the time, many presumed it was linked to the operation he underwent the previous July to remove a cyst on a spinal facet joint, though this has subsequently been rejected.

"When it happened in Australia, it felt like something new rather than a chronic injury. But it's one of those frustrating things, where no easy cure is available. In the end, it has been a question of strengthening and stabilising the pelvis and generally re-educating myself over posture." Injury can often sap a person's

spirit, and it is good to see that Thorpe has yet to succumb to the numbing frustrations sometimes associated with overcoming it. He even chuckles at the irony of driving a sponsored car provided by Posturight, a company which specialises in furniture for people with bad backs.

Mind you, he has many reasons to be buoyant and the rehab, under the guidance of England's doctor Philip Bell, and the physiotherapists at the Barbican House appears to have done the trick. Last week Thorpe was given the go-ahead to tour Sharjah.

"It's been a hard two months physically, but the mental rest I've had from not staying on in Aussie has been a bonus. It was an unfortunate way to get a break [it is the first time Thorpe has spent most of the winter in England for 10 years] but, looking back, I probably needed it." In fact, once back he kept only a cursory eye on proceedings in Aus-







Graham Thorpe's winter opened promisingly with an unbeaten 223 for England against South Australia in Adelaide in partnership with Mark Ramprakash (left), but within a month he had suffered a back injury (right) which put him out of the tour David Ashdown/Reuters

tralia. "As there is nothing you can do about things, you don't feel part of it, even though they are close

As most injured sportsmen will tell you, hard work is vital, for there are few stigma worse in a professional sporting career than that of being considered injury-prone.

"As a career, cricket has a limited lifespan, so when you get injured,

fears inevitably enter your head about how long you have left. I'm 29, but the way you hear people talk about me, you'd think I was an old

"It is difficult, but you've got to stay philosophical about it. People usually those who don't understand - are always getting on others' backs over injury. The important thing is to stay upbeat and not get paranoid about things. Twe chatted for injured players to return to the to Athers [Atherton] about his problems and how to deal with the pain. Obviously, if I overwork my back at the moment it hurts, but the trick is to learn the difference between the pains and twinges of muscles working hard and real danger signs."

Ever since sportsmen first accepted money for their services. there has always been a pressure

fray sooner than nature intended. especially if they are world-cl. ss performers like Thorpe. In hindsight, his return to play for Surrey in the last game of the 1998 season, less than two months after his back operation, was probably a mistake.

"Actually I'd always earmarked that game to play in once I'd had the operation. I suppose, had Surrey not

been second in the Championship. I probably wouldn't have played That was the difference when I came back from Australia - there was no rushing. Instead there was time to sit down, assess the matter and plan the rehabilitation step by step. This time it's been thorough. I've even watched videos of my body positions when batting and fielding, and, although I'm not looking to make big changes, I'll have to try and keep some movements within a certain range."

Thorpe apart, nobody will be hoping that the slowly-slowly approach has worked more than the England captain, Alec Stewart. As a fellow member of the same Surrey side for the past decade, Stewart needs no reminding of how much England's one-day batting line-up missed Thorpe. Indeed, when it comes to indispensability, Thorpe probably heads the list - how else could England's selectors justify dropping Thorpe's good friend,

During the recent one-day series in Australia, the one glaring weakness England had, apart from rarely getting a good start, was keeping the score moving during the middle overs without losing wickets. Hussain made a decent fist of it but blew his big chance in the first of the oneday finals against Australia.

Having all but won the game for England, the Essex captain committed the cardinal sin of getting out with the job unfinished. Predictably, England collapsed from a seemingly impregnable position to hand Australia the match.

Playing the middle overs is a deceptive skill. With the field set deep and defensive, the nuances are not always apparent to the untrained eye, which tends to notice the biffers and bashers that begin and end the typical limited-overs innings.

Instead of big shots, with their added risk factor, clever placement and manipulation of the ball, as well as shrewd running, are the modus operandi required mid-innings. Inevitably shot selection has to be spot on, something at which a fit and confident Thorpe, who averages 40.05 from his 44 one-day internationals, is an acknowledged master.

The trip to Sharjah, while hopefully providing a stepping stone to the resumption of Thorpe's career, is likely to come at a price, and Thorpe's wife Nicky - he first met her in neighbouring Dubai during a Surrey pre-season tour there in the early 90s - is expecting their second child slap bang in the middle of the tournament.

"It is not easy to sacrifice such moments to the job and I thought about it long and hard. But my career does help to support my family, so playing in Sharjah will hopefully be good for all of us. I just hope the baby either comes early or late, then I can be there."

Notwithstanding the importance of Sharjah as a vardstick for his fitness, you get the impression that the World Cup, which follows it a month later, means an awful lot to Thorpe.

"It's simply the pinnacle of the one-day game - a pressure event that tests both your consistency and your nerve. Mind you, if we won it, I think it would only mean a lot to people for a short time, though hopefully it would help get youngsters involved in cricket generally."

Firstly, though, Sharjah has to be negotiated by both Thorne and England. Inevitably, and in spite of the vastly differing conditions between those found in the Arabian Gulf and an English May, conclusions about players and England's overall chances of making the World Cup final are bound to be made.

"We will all be taking one thing at a time," Thorpe says. "Obviously we'd like to win both tournaments, but Sharjah is really about our World Cup squad being and working together. Getting players to gel is very important and it increases your chances of winning. I'm just looking to contribute to that."

THE WEEK AHEAD: SPORT ON TELEVISION

HGURE SKATING: The World Champ-ionships get underway in Helsinki. Whatever happened to British supre-

THURSDAY

RACING: Doncaster. Although the Flat season never really ends due to all-weather tracks, this meeting marks the start of a new year on turf. The Town Moor card normally has the honour of being the opening day's only meeting (It is still the first, starting at 1,30), but it is joined this year by Windsor (starts 2.25). Will this season see the Godolphin team, headed by Saeed Blin Suoor, emerge as the top trainers again, or will Henry Cecil manage to reassert his authority to move up a spot from second? Will Klerten Fallon, top jockey with 204 wins last year (to Frank) Dettori's second-placed 132) be top jockey with 204 wins last year (to Frank) Dettori's second-placed 132) be top jockey spain? Traditionalists will tell you that the season does not start in earnest until Newmarket's Craven meeting on 13 April, but try telling the horses that.

FOOTBALL: European Under-21

Championship Group Five march: England v Poland at The Dell.

THE WEEK AHEAD: MAIN EVENTS

CASS FOCKAII.

CRICKET: Start of the third Test between Australia and the West Indies in Barbados. All eyes will be on Brian Lara and his side following the Windies' remarkable win in the Second Test in Kingston. Lara's astonishing double century underpinned that victory, which brought an end to a six-game losing streak and made more nations than just Australia sit up and take notice. Australia sit up and take notice.

ATHLETICS: The World Cross-country Championship, Belfast, Kenya's Paul Tergat will attempt to become the first man in history to win the event for a fifth consecutive year. Last year he became only the second man ever (following his compatrior John Ngugi) to win four.

der his direction and, although there are doubts over the fitness of Michael Owen, there should be no lack of commitment from the players. If you want a 0-0 draw i'm not your man," Keegan said last week. Let's hope that fate doesn't deliver a 0-1 instead. Northern Ireland entertain the out-of-form Germany (Group Tince) in Belfass, while Scotland host Bosnia (Group Nine) at Ibrox and should have few problems moving (albelt temporarily) to the top of their pack.

of their pack.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Silk Cut Challenge
Cup semi-final. Castleford, four-time
winners of the trophy, take on the London Broncos. trying to reach Wembley for the first time, at Headingley. The
Broncos will at least be able to call on
the experience of Shaun Edwards and
Martin Offiah. veterans of 11 Wembley wins with Wigan.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-final: Leeds Rhinos v Brad-ford Bulls at the McAlpine Stadium.

TENNIS: The finale of the Lipton Championships in Florida. By this stage of the week we will know if the Spaniard, Carlos Moya, has retained the World No 1 status he achieved last week, or whether someone else has nipped ahead to take pole position.

Terrestrial
14-10-14-45 BBC2 Sporting Greats Son 14. 10-14.45 BBC2 Sporting Greats Sove Crain talks to Earnon Holmes, 14.45-15.30 BBC2 Metch Of Their Day Stan Bowles talks to Garth Crooks. 19.00-19.30 BBC1 A Classifice Of Sport Wigh Jonathan Edwards, Mark Ramprakesh, Will Carling and David Barry. 21.00-22.00 CA Custing Seiger Pluning For England Sheffield Wednesday's beas band was ensisted by the FA on play at England's World Cup games and, such is the nature of modern celebrity and its actendant pressures, things became tense and fractious. Now they have ambitions to become the world's first professional supporters. How depressing... Sakelilite.

20.00-22.00 Sty Sports 3 Line Bowles Dou-

TODAY

Sabelilite
20,00-22,00 Sky Sports 3 Line Bowls Doubles from the second lest between Australia and England.
08,00-39,00 Eurosport Short Track Spead Skating From Sofia.

68.00-39.00 Eurosport seems sycome. Starting From Sofia.

16.00-17-30 Eurosport Line Thomas From the women's event in Key Biscayine, Florida.

18.00-21.00 Eurosport Line Figure Skatting First day of the World Championships in Helsin-ki. Today: Pairs short programme.

TOMORROW Terrestrial

Wilson. 15.30-16.00 C4 Collectors' Lot Debbie Thrower meets a collector of rugby memora-Thrower meets a collector or rugoy memora-bila. 21,00-22.00 CA Hoddle and the Healer Elsen Drewery's TV performences in support of Glern Hoddle around the time of his soci-

going the fit to her supposed entitylened state. This firm gives her and Hoddle their say and earnings the witchhant that led to Hoddle's dismissal, as well as looking at cases of footballers apparently healed by fasth. 81.50-04.40 G Live and Dangerous Includes indycar and British Itouring cars.

Sate/Ilibe

From the World Championships – Compulso-ry Dance programme. 16.00-17.30 Eurosport Live Yearls More from Key Biscayne. 17.30-21.00 Eurosport Figure Skatting

WEDNESDAY

Terrestrial 14.10-14.45 BBCI Sporting Greats With Bit

free stating. 19.30-22.00 Sky Sports I Live Football The London Master's Six-a-side tournament, I ea-turing weterans of the likes of Llam Brady, Ray Wilkins and Chris Waddle.

THURSDAY Terrestrial
13.55-18.00 C4 Rading From Doncaster, where Flat rading resumes after winter break, 14.10-14.45 BBC Sporting Greats With Alan Lamb. 18.45-19.30 BBC2 World Figure Stating

Highlights
22.20-22.50 BBC! They Think It's All Over
Again Repeat. With Arthur Smith and that
matter of Galic, Smugness, Franck Lebeouf.
00.35-04.40 C5 Live and Dangarous.
C-balling Satellike
12.00-15.30, 17.00-21.30 Eurosport Figura Stating More from Helsinki – Original
Dence programme at 12.00, men's Free Skatare streaming and 12.00, time...
Inglater on.
19.30-22.00 Sky Sports 2 for Hockey
Superleague play-off.

FRIDAY

Terrestrial 14.10-14.45 BBC2 Sporting Greats Bren-dan Foster 14.45-15.30 BBC: Match Of Their Day Gay

18.55-19.30, 00.30-01.10 BBC2 World Fig-ure Starting Highlights. Satellite

68.30-12.30 Eurosport Live Rugby Union Pool matches from the Hong Kong Sevens, which has been going since 1976. Hij are usu-ally the best bet for entertainment, value. ally the best bet for entertainment value.

12.30-15.30, 17.00-21.30 Europpor Rigare Stashing Ladler' short programme and free dance programme.

14.00-21.00 Sity Sports 3 Carletes With Brian Lara retained as capacit, and the series at square. West Indies are easily capable of seeing off the Australian touriests. Use coverage of the third feet, from Barbados.

19.30-22.00 Sity Sports I Internacional Football Brigand y Poland in European Under-21 Championship qualifier.

SATURDAY

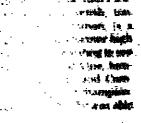
G.00-09-00 CA Transsouriet S. 09-00-10-00 CA Transsouriet S. 09-00-10-00 CA Transsouriet S. 11-00-11-00 CA Inside Region, 11-00-12-00 CA Gestacts Footh 12-15-17-15-18-10 Cartesfeld v London Broncos Inside Region (Cartesfeld v London Broncos Inside Region (Cartesfeld v London Broncos Inside Region (Press.)

Satellice
08:30-12.30 Europort Live Riggly Union
More from the Hong Kong Sevens
12:00-16.15 Eurosport Figure Shading
More from Helsinik - Ladies Free Skating

14.00-17.00 Sty Sports 2 Line Feethalf England u Poland. The beginning and the beginning of the end) of a new era. Can risegar cut k? 15.00-16.45 Sty Sports 1 international Feethalf Scotland entertain Bosnia in a European Championship qualifier that shouldn't hold aromany terriors, even for a side that has turned the pratfall into an artform.
20.00-22.00 Eurosport international Football Euro 2000 qualifier - France v Uivains 21.00-23.00 Sty Sports 1 Saturday Fight Night Poul Dempsty presents, lan Durie continentates, Glern Nictirory analyses.

SUNDAY Terrestrial 12.30-17.55 BBC2 Sunday Gra Undes Bradford v Leeds in the obCup semi, more cross country at of Leinestre v Wospis in the Alfied Du 00.05-00.35 CS

00.05-00.35 C5 Sportstalk. 00.35-04.40 C5 for hockey. Satelijke 07.30-11.00, 12.00-12.40 Eurosport Rug by Sevens Boyl crack for the state of the sport of the state of the sta 97.30-11.00, 12.00-12.40 Eurosport Ring-by Senama Final stages from Hong Kong. 93.30-14.30 Sky Sports 1, 11.00-12.00, 15.30-19.00 Eurosport Superbline Opening race in the World Champhorship, from Mystu-m in South Africa. Carl Fogarty begins the de-rence of his world ritie. 12.40-13.10 Eurosport Live Audiectics Women's Akm race from the world cross coun-try champhanships in Belfast. 13.10-15.30 Eurosport Pigure Shashing. 15.00-17.00, 17.30-22.00 Sky Sports I the termational Oricine West Indies v Australia. 17.00-18.30 Eurosport Live Ramble From the women's event in key Biscopre.



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COMAN TUITORY

CHRIS MAUME

BRIAN VINER

It is the study of a man

possessed of a ferocious.

almost frightening

will to win

qualify for the European Champion-ship. With Kevin Keegan in charge,

they cannot fail. For there is no ob-

stacle that this man Keegan cannot overcome, and, if you think I am laying it on a bit thick, you should watch the video I watched over the week-

end. It features Keegan at his most

heroic, battling against the odds to

become master of his domain. It is

a study of a man possessed of a fe-rocious, almost frightening will to

Cynics say he didn't actually win

anything with Newcastle United, but I would submit, as would much of Ty-

neside, that nobody else could have

made the Magpies soar as he did. Fulham, meanwhile, move relent-

lessly towards the First Division. So,

mark my words, England, under Keegan, will qualify for Euro 2000.

All the portents were there, back in

1976, when he fell off his bike on

Superstors yet bounced back to

On Saturday evening, after re-

Fulham hammered Blackpool 4-0, I

unzipped my anorak and rooted

around at the back of my collection

of sporting videos, eventually find-

ing the one labelled "Superstars -

I slotted it into my VCR and fid-

dled about with the tracking knob for

a while before realising David Vine

really was wearing a checked tie

with a stripey shirt. Then I settled

back to enjoy Keegan - his hairstyle

in its pre-perm, German helmet

phase - beating Rund Krol in the ca-

noeing final, and even pipping Franz

Klammer in the squat thrusts, And.

as if this were not pleasure enough.

there was the David Vine/Ron Pick-

ering commentary to relish, too.

"Ostarcevic, the Frenchman, is a

basketball player and a former high

jumper, so it will be interesting to see

self a World, European and Com-

monwealth non-sequitur champion.

Keegan's bike crash."

win the heat.

ITH OR without

Michael Owen,

England will beat

Poland on Satur-

day and go on to

THE INDITINDENT,

theate, what appopt of There were money at Fingland captain, Are Small a feiling member of the said all needs no reminder of else could England's selection tily dropping Thurpe's goods Nasser Hussian

During the recent one in Australia, the one slaring a nees England had apartimes getting a youd start was been Manual mount quant per overs without loving with h water mark, a decemt hist display THE INC CITATION IN the last after doy timels agreed Australia

Having all but won the England, the Esset capage multed the carebnal sind page with the police principled Project Explanator appeal from age subsectivity of treesting to page train the mater

Playing the middle overes turning from Craven Cottage, where replay shall that the helicas and defensive the manes? share appeared to the me ere, which from to continue and bushers that beamade. typical lumbed overs mee

Instead of the shets ray added rick thefer eleveryze and themprished of their in-का श्रीपाच्या राज्यात्व कार्याट diversared) accounted and least retaining about a become to be est, with estimated which are a fident Theree, who are as from his 42 are duy esteral. **हिः सहा सर्वत्रा**क्षणकार वितृत्व वे स्थानका

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cutta's press to dampen the flames. istan, and while last month's trou-

ble was triggered by a controversial dismissal, that of Sachin Tendukar,

Television replays suggested that Tendulkar might after all have grounded his bat in time and the following day objects rained on to the field from all sides as India's batting collapsed. The ground was cleared and Pakistan were forced to seal vic-

cians cried, the fans had gone too far. tour by Pakistan had been central to India is running out of sympathy with crowds which have earned

countries. The trouble was blamed Akhtar, who was positioned in front on a misjudged and unwanted mood of the crease. Nadeem Khan's throw of nationalism, a charge hotly denied by the local media, who argued the disturbances were simply a result of genuine passions boiling over again.

"Here Tendulkar is a household than the prime minister, for example," says Jayanta, a sports journalist in Calcutta for over 20 years. "When he was given out, the crowd were simply shocked to the core, and from that shock rose a great grief which resulted in this odd incident."

however, only the latest in a long series of "odd incidents" involving the Calcutta crowds. Back in the

THE WEEK AHEAD: FIXTURES

behaviour on two occasions, in Test matches against the West Indies and England. In 1994, the exclusion of a Bengali player, Utpal Chatterjee, from the Indian team led to angry scenes. Then during the 1996 World Cup semi-final, with India facing defeat by Sri Lanka, a riot on the terraces forced an abandonment of the match in favour of the visitors.

Neither has crowd violence in Calcutta been confined to cricket. Supporters of the city's two main football clubs, Mohun Bagan and East Bengal, have a history of hooliganism, the most serious incidence of which occurred in 1980 during a match between the two sides at Eden Gardens, when 16 people died and many

Perhaps to understand such disturbances is to know something of the unique spirit of Calcutta itself. Ben-

of a nation, and Calcutta is the region's great insurgent heart, a city from which the British were first driven away in 1911, where a Marxist state government still prevails and where citizens love to while away the hot afternoons talking politics or sport.

But now the rest of India is fast running out of sympathy for Calcutta and its crimes of passion. For Jayanta, the future of Test cricket at Eden Gardens is safe if only because of the huge gate revenues, but there will be no end to the terrace troubles from the overly devoted Calcuttan supporters. "Of course I am not supporting crowd violence," he sighs, "but it is the way things are here. The crowd, they identify themselves with the players, with the game it-self... they identify themselves with everything. That is just the way it is with the Bengalis."

GRAHAM SNOWDON

SPORT ON THE INTERNET ANDY OLDFIELD

THE LAST time that the World sport or an art. The status of Figure Skating Championships technical and aesthetic purwere hosted by Helsinki, Finland, in 1983, Torvill and Dean successfully won their third consecutive gold in the ice dancing. Since then the Russians have had a virtual monopoly on that discipline. To see if there's any change, and what's also happening in the other disciplines, the official site for the final World Championships of the millengium which starts today at the Hart-wall Arena in Helsinki is worth

bookmarking. The results table, which is in place for when competition gets under way looks comprehensive and should provide easy links to full details. But the site offers

more than a results service. For one thing, it is looking ahead to the 2006 Winter Olympics, with details of the joint bid by Helsinki Lahti and Lillehammer endorsed by President Martti Antisaari. It also gives an

overview of the city's culture and history. There's a web camera looking out over the capital. Sometimes it's even switched on. If you have the Cosmo Player Virtual Reality plug-in in your browser, you can

take virtual tours of city sites such as the swimming pool and the Olympic stadium. If you don't have it, there's a link to its download site. It's a start in using the Web's interactivity capabilities, perhaps in the future they might use something similar to explain the intricacies of the manoeuvres

involved on the ice. The appeal of those manoeuvres is under discussion in Figure Skater's Waltz, where of whether figure skating is a ling to Kyle.

suits as sport is an old debate. where firm opinions either way are the norm. It's doubtful whether Bynum will convince the sceptics who demand a traditional testosteroneadrenalin base as the defining characteristics of sport, but the arguments are there, none

the less. The sports site SLAM! is in no doubt that figure skating is a bona fide sport. Although it is based in Canada, it's not parochial. For daily news on the sport, as opposed to the profes-sional figure skating circuit, it's a good source of hard information about the international scene. Its features have a more

North American slant, but that's not entirely surprising since Canada's Elvis Stojko has won three of the last five men's titles and is on the comeback trail at Helsinki after tearing a groin muscle in the Nagano Olympics last SkateWeb is the

place for an alternative take on skating. It has links to assorted unofficial championships sites, fan pages and message boards for

those who like the web to be more than a one-way medium. It also has some material such as features on the music used by skaters.

If you did not realise that there's a literature of figure skating, SkateWeb will put you on the right track. One example is an on-going science fiction story about the quest of Kyle, a half-human skater, for an Interstellar medal. The author has only got as far as chapter 13 so far. Helsinki's results will be Matt Bynum looks at the issue known well before those relat-

SITE ADDRESSES

Official World Figure Skating Championships http://www.figureskate99.fi/engindex.html Figure Skater's Waltz

http://www.connecti.com/~bynum/mb-skater.html SLAM! Figure Skating http://www.canoe.ca/SlamSkating/ Skate Web

http://frog.simplenet.com/skateweb/

QUESTIONNAIRE

After beating Inter, can Manchester United win the European Cup? feel that their luck's in, but anything can happen in the next two

rounds. What's your

favourite foreign food? French. It leads by a mile.

Who's the brightest young British footballing prospect? I don't think you can put anyone ahead of Michael Owen, but the young Leeds defender Jonathon Woodgate is worth watching.

What's the best book you've ever read? My autobiography, The Jimmy Hill Story. It reminded me of all

the things I've forgotten.

How many of your shirts from your playing days have None. Even the ball I scored five goals with against Doncaster in 1958 I gave to my son and it got

Would you welcome Rupert Murdoch taking over Manchester United?

torn to pieces on the park.

It wouldn't worry me, even if I didn't work for him. One man can't change a whole league. Did you see the

Lewis / Holyfield fight and was Lewis cheated? With a chin like mine, it's hard to watch boxing. Did you bet on anything at

Cheltenham? Did you win? I bet on Decoupage, which came second, and Florida Pearl, which came third. The only other time I ever bet is on the Derby.

What was the worst dressing room you ever experienced?

The worst place I ever changed in was my own home, changing from my school kit into my Boys' Brigade uniform and keeping the mud on my knees in between. We only had one bath a week then.

Which politician would you most like to share a long Journey with? Our last Prime Minister, John Major. The public didn't take to him, but he's a very warm

character and a great listener.

SPORTING VERNACULAR

WHEN THE Tote jackpot, worth not to be learned in one nearly £700,000, was held over last week from the Cheltenham Festival to Fakenham on Friday, a nation's punters went collectively crazy.

Apart from criminal associations (signifying, among other things, a spot of trouble or an arrest), "jackpot" has always been a gambling term, originating not at the race track but round the poker table, where it came to denote a prize pot that had to accumulate until one of the players could open the betting with a pair of jacks or better (the Harvard Lampoon in 1881 wrote: "Poker-playing is

evening, and Jack Pots are often a snake in the grass').

From there, the word was extended to other sports and activities that entailed a prize that will be carried over if there is no winner. So by 1949, for example, a correspondent was recording in Radio Times that "We saw our first American audience participation show. The prizes included a diamond wrist-watch... The jackpot was \$1,250!" Friday's jackpot could have been worth approximately 1,000 times that But it wasn't...

CHRIS MAUME



A youthful Kevin Keegan tells David Vine how he won 'Superstars' in 1976, despite (below) crashing in the bicycle race MSI

to glide from sport to sport, and al- and whizzing across the track like ways knew the correct jargon. "You an ice-hockey puck, in the process had a tremendous wobble-on coming up the straight," he said to Kee-gan, who was already an icon in 1976, but was elevated to an even higher pedestal following that wobble-on. Looking back, in fact, it was his performances on Superstars which first indicated Keegan's genius for self-promotion (during his time with Southampton, whenever he was late for the team bus, the other players used to joke that he was scouring the town for someone who didn't

have his autograph). I realise, of course, there will be people reading this column who are too young to remember Superstars. Or, less forgivably, are old enough but preferred to watch And Mother Makes Five on the other side. Either way, you missed a treat. Superstars was, quite simply, one of the finest television series of all time. show he can swim." said Vine. him- And its legacy was an assortm unforgettable images.

removing most of the skin from his back. Then there were Malcolm McDonald's spectacularly bandy legs, carrying him to a Superstors record in the 100 metres. And the amazing sight of Tony Knowles puffing along in the steeplechase, having been invited to take part on the dubious basis that he was the fittest man in snooker. I wonder whether there was a mini-Superstars beld among the snooker players, to establish who should go forward to represent the sport in the main event? I like to think of Knowles in the football skills competition, running rings round Bill Werbeniuk, which would,

As well as treating us to the spectacle of sporting legends com-peting in events unfamiliar to them, Superstars also made legends of people nobody had ever heard of, like the hurdler Guy Drut, and the judo champion Brian Jacks. Jacks, in par-sharply in the nuts. Of these, the most potent has to ticular, briefly became a household Still give Vine his due, he was able be Kevin Keegan flying off his bike name, thanks to his awesome abil- Alan Ball, Jack Nicklaus and Gra- been a sensation on Superstors.

of course, have taken some time.



ity in the dios and the squat thrusts. ham Gooch, and also, believe it or If memory serves, though, he also not, of WG Grace. According to had a rather squeaky voice, placing Simon Rae's biography of the great him in that category of sportsmen man, WG's voice was so squeaky that whose macho exploits seem de- he once had a marriage proposal signed to compensate for the fact turned down on account of it. WG that Mother Nature

I am thinking here of men like was an excellent shot. He would have

also captained England at bowls, had a single-figure golf handicap, and

LETTER FROM ... CALCUTTA

The city paying for its passion

of a madness than a sport, and nowhere is that theory more wholeheartedly embraced than on the terraces of Eden Gardens, Calcutta. A recent edition of Sports Illustrated included a match there in a list of things every sports lover should ex-

perience before they die. Yet disturbances during an Asian Championship Test match against Pakistan have again highlighted a darker side to the passionate nature of the Calcuttan crowd, a problem which has manifested itself on several occasions in the past and which is threatening to result in a suspension of Test cricket from Eden Gardens. Almost a month later, leading commentators in Indian cricket are refusing to let the issue die despite the best efforts of Cal-

India is in the midst of rebuilding sporting and political ties with Pak-

FOOTBALL: See panel, page five. RACING: Newcastle (2.0); SOUTHWELL (all-weath-

TUESDAY

TUESDAY

FOOTBALL (7.45 unless stated): Nationwide
League First Division: Barrisley v Bristol City, Port
Vale v Graphy. Second Division: Bristol Rovers v
Wycombe; Luton v Reading, Third Division: Darlington v Carlste, Scanthorpe v Subjects (7.30). Autoministervases Shield Morthern fiscal second lesministervases (9.0). Automotive to meet Allihedi
Vircoham (0) v Wigon (2) (winners to meet Allihedi
vir Winnister on 18 April). Nacionalido Conference:
Veolity Southport.
SBOONER: Benson and Hedges Irish Masters (Kill,
Co Kildare, 10 Sunday).
SOURSE British Open (Birmingham, 10 Sunday).

Co Klidger, to Sunday). SQUASH: British Open (Birmingham, to Sunday). RACING: Untoweler (2.20); Easter (2.0); Fontwell

WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY

POOTBALL (7.45 unices stated): Nacionambie
Langue First Division: Huddersfield v Norwich.
Reciperation Conference: Forest Green v Kingstonic len, Societan Langue First Division: Hamilton v
Agr. Opdebank v Greenech Morton.
PASSICTHALL: Bedwelbar Lengue: Derby Storm
v Worthing Bears (8.0): Newtastic Engles v London Towers (7.0): Thames Valley Tigers v Manchester
Glants (8.0).
Recence Ludiow (2.0): Yowcester (2.10): Chepstow
(1.50).

THURSDAY

RUSSY, LEAGUE Northern Food Premiership: Rechdale v Keighley (7.30). RACING: DONCASTER (1.30); Wincaston (2.15); Windoor (2.25).

the idol of Indian cricket at a delicate stage of the match, it could not have come at a worse time for Calcutta's cricket authorities. Returning for a run, Tendulkar had collided with the Pakistani fielder Shoaib of the crease. Nadeem Khan's throw hit the stumps, Tendulkar was out

and it was too much for parts of the 90,000 crowd to take.

tory in front of an empty stadium. This time, the press and politi-Not simply a sporting occasion, the the new goodwill between the two

FRIDAY

POOTBALL (7.45 unless stated): Europaan
Chaesplouddip Group Seese: Portugal v Azerbaljan
(9.0) (at Don Atonso Heartques stadium. Gulmordes). European Under-21 Chaesploudge
Group Three: Northern Ireland v Germany (7.30)
(at The Oest, Bestest): Group Flee: England v Poisrol
(at The Oest, Southampton). Group Englat. Macedonla v Republic of Ireland (Rature to be Conlimed).
Razionandio Langum First Division: Sheffield
Utd v Oxford Utd; Frantere v Crewe. Third Divisions: Exetre v Darlingson: Halfax v Leyono Orient:
Scarborough v Rochdile (7.30); Shreusbury v Combridge Utd: Southend v Hull. Machomide CohPermants: Doncaster v Stevenege.
RUGBSY LEAGUEE Northern Ford Premientalps:
Razing v Hull KR (8.0).
RACING: DONCASTER (1.30); Kelso (1.45); Newsbury (2.10).

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL (3.0 unless stated): European Championschip Group Omes Belants v Switzerland (4.30) (of Dynamo stadium, Minsk): Denmark v Italy (5.15) (at Parism stadium, Copenhoges). Group Time: Georgia v Sinveria (4.0) (of Bors Patchache stadium, Tolifs); Greece v Norway (5.30) (or Spiros Louis stadium, Steins). Group Times: Northern Ireland v Germany (at Windsor Park, Bellost): Turkey v Noticious (5.0) (at All Sami Ven spacina, Europa). Group Fourt Andorra v leeland (6.0) (at Common stadium, Andorra is Velo); Armenia v Russia (4.0) (at Readem stadium, Verevaa): France v Usraine (7.45) (or Stade de France, St Denis), Group Filme Erigiand v Poland (at Meabley stadium); Switch (4.0) (at Readem stadium, Verevaa): France v Lucershourg (2.0) (at Ulevi stadium); Switch (4.0) (at Lichtenstein (6.30) (at Ulevi stadium, Sevenan Hangy v Liechtenstein (6.30) (at Ulevi stadium, Sevenan Hangy v Liechtenstein (6.30) (at Ulevi stadium, Sevenan Hangy v Liechtenstein (6.30) (at Ulevi stadium, Sevenan Hangs, Sevenan Hang, Sevenan H

notoriety on the terraces

name, far more famous or popular

Last month's disturbances were,

mid-1980s, play at Eden Gardens gali people see themselves as the was disrupted by unruly spectator artists, writers and political activists

more were injured in rioting sparked by a controversial sending-off.

Rc v Linhuania (3.30) (at No Schnodioch standium, Replice); Scotland v Bosnia (at Rerax standium, Glos-gów). European Under-21 Championalis Group Hitne: Scotland v Bosnia (12.0) (at Love Street, Pati-ky), Machonalda Pootball League Second Dist-sion: Bournemouth v Colchester (12.0); Pristol Rovers v Notts County; Chesterfield v Bigdippot, Laron v Gillingham (11.30); Milhadia V Wersham (12.0); Presson v Northampoon; Reading v Man-merce (10.1); Milhadia V Marcham v Articles (12.0); Presson v Northampoon; Reading v Man-merce (10.1); In Marchampoon; Reading v Man-merce (10.1); In Marchampoon; Reading v Man-Luten v Gillingham (11.30): Milheall v Wercham (12.0); Presson v Northampton; Reading v Narchampton; Reading v Northampton; Reading v Northam (1.0). Third Dieblon: Brighton v Barner, Cardin v Cardisir, Onester v Plymouti; Rotherinam v Stanthampe (12.30); Torquey v Hartlepool (12.0). Matdournéa Conférence: Barrow v Kidderninster; Dover v Morecambe (1.0); Ketzering v Russiden & Diamonots: Telford v Pamborougit; Woking v Heonesford: Yeovif v Hayes. Ph. Umbarn Dropky shath reseach Emiley v Chebrathiam; Forest Green Rovers v Southport; Northwich v Kingstoniam; St Albans v Boston Unt (1.0).

BIRTHDAYS

6-4 in 1989.

TOMORROUGH Roger Burnister the first man subfloor relate roller, was born in 1929. Cathen boter Teofilio Stevenson was born in 1952. He won
the Olympic heavyweight title three times.

WEDNESSANCE Arche Germall, Father of Nottingham Forest's Scot, was born in 1947. He
played for Scotland 43 times, and will always be
fondly remembered for the goal he scoted against
the Netherlands in the 1978 World Cup.

SKELINENIE Duncan Goodhew, the farmously baid
swimmer, was born in 1957. He won Olympic gold
in Misscow in 1980 in the 100 metres breassande.

Ellery Hanley, rugby lengue player – the inspliction beland Wigan's giory, glory years of the 1980s
and now St Helens coach – was born in 1961.

ANNIVERSARIES

TODAYE The first rugby union international, in 1906. England beat France 33-8 in Parls. A record field of 66 runners genthered for the Grand National in 1929. TOMBOVEROWE Miller Hallmood, motorcyclist, wes littled, along with his daughtor, in a car crash in 1991. WEDNESDAYET THE BOAT Race ended in his only dead heat. In 1877. Jan Woosnam won his first golf tour-nament in the United States, the USF and G Classic in New Orleans. In 1991. Three weeks lacer he won his second, the US Masters. In New Orkans. In 1991. Three weeks later he won his second, the US Masters.
THEMESTARE Wales played their first football international, losing 4-0 to Scotland in Glesgow in 1876. No one emembers who won the 1972 British Schools Cross-Country Championalias, intermediace DM-sion, in second place, however, was Steve Overto, with Sebastian Coe down the field in 10th, in 1992, Alderstor PC footed with debts of £1.2m.
PREDICE: The first National Hunt speeplechase took place, at Market Harborough in 1963. In 1959 Mushing Malammad become the youngest last cricioties; for Paddstan v West Indies, aged 15 years, 124 days.

SUNDAY SUNDAY FOOTBALL (3.0 unless stated)* European Chempionship Group Site. brael v Cyprus (4.0) (or Romor Gon stodiem, 124 Anhy). Nationandae Prootball Langue First Publishou. Crystal Palace v Bradford Chy, Pontsmeath v Barraine, Second Dhieless Burnley v Macciesfield (1.0); Lincoln Chy v York, Third Dirislance Peterborough v Mansfleti. RMGBY LEAGUE-Site. Cat. Challenge Cop semi-final: Lects Rhines v Bradford Buils (2.0) (or McAlpine Stodium, Huddersfield). RMGBY UNIXDN: Allied Durbar Premiership Che (3.0); Saracens v Bath, Viest Hartlepool v Sale. BASSICTERALL: Backenshire Langues Chester lets v Sheffield Starts (5.30); Greater London Leopards v Leicester Riders (6.0) (or Southend); Milton Keynes Lionts v London Towers (4.0). RACONGC Curragh (2.30).

(2.30). BASPICTURALL: Bodsneider League: Birning-ham Bullers v Manchester Gains (7 0); Derby Storm v Greater London Leopards (5.45); Leicester Richers v Edinburgh Rocks (7.30); London Towers v Chester Jess (7.30); Sheffield Sharts v Newcastle Eagles (7.30); Worthing Bears v Tharpes Volley Tigers (8.0).
ROCKNEY DONCASTER (1.50); Newbury (2.0); Bartinger (1.45); Warwick (mixed, 2.10); WOLLYER-HAMPTON (all-mearher, 7.0).

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British hopes fade in Florida

LEE WESTWOOD and Colin Montgomerie both slipped out of contention on Saturday's third day of the Bay Hill Invitational in Orlando, Florida.

Westwood had been just four shots off the lead at the halfway point but after a one-over-par 73 in the third round he trailed the joint front-runners, Tim Herron and Davis Love, by 10 strokes. He was joined on 212, four Love piled on the pressure with rounds of 67 each. Tom Lehman was one shot

back in third place after his third-round 66, while Brandel Chamblee, who entered at the a further three strokes adrift in over the Canadian Lorie Kane. fourth after a round of 67.

were two shots ahead of the world No 1, Tiger Woods, who could only manage a 72. Love and Herron displayed

contrasting games but finished the day as they started it, tied for the lead. Love had eight birdies and three bogeys in a win, had a 71, but the overnight wildly fluctuating round, while leader, Tracy Hanson, crashed Herron carded five birdies in a out of contention with an 81, flawless performance as both leaving her at level par on 216. completed five-under-par rounds of 67 under ideal conditions on the Bay Hill course.

With hardly a breath of wind, only firm greens prevented the strongest field in the world this year from averaging better than 71.3 strokes.

In Arizona, Britain's Laura

BY DERRICK WHYTE

Davies saw her bid for a fifth Standard Register Ping title fal-ter when she could only manage a third-round level-par 72 in tough, breezy conditions at Moon Valley, Phoenix, Arizona. Davies, who set an LPGA

record with four tournament under par, by Montgomerie, wins in a row from 1994, re-who fired a 72, as Herron and mained the leading Briton - a shot ahead of Scotland's Catriona Matthew - on four under par, but was seven shots behind the leader, Karrie Webb of Australia. Webb upped her chances of a third win of the season with last minute after suffering a around of 69 for an 11-under-par back injury three weeks ago, was 205 overall and a two-shot lead

Webb, the US money-leader Ian Woosnam and Bernhard this year with earnings of al-Langer were both way down most £200,000, had four birdies the field on 216, but at least they as she continued a phenomenal start to the season in which she has never finished lower than eighth in five starts. Last month she won the Australian Masters by 10 shots with a tour record score of 26 under par.

Kane, seeking her first tour

Sweden's Annika Sorenstam claimed her first career hole-inone with an eight iron at the 149yard second hole. The world No 1 went on to shoot a 71 to finish four under par Matthew, who finished third in Tucson last week, had four birdies in her round of 70.



Lee Westwood strolls barefoot across the 17th green at Bay Hill

Thomas benefits from Welsh winning habit

THE ITALIANS thought this was going to be their big moment. They took the game to the rugby hot-bed of Treviso, packed the ground with 7.000 expectant fans and felt confident they were going to be good enough to beat Wales for the first time in six starts.

After all, this Italian side had come within a decent refereeing decision of beating England in a World Cup qualifier in Huddersfield four months ago and was packed with experience.

In the end, though, they were blown away by a Welsh side playing with ever increasing stature and confidence fol-lowing their win over France in Paris two weeks earlier. There was a ruthless edge about everything they did, greater understanding of the style the coach Graham Henry wants his team to adopt and complete dominance of the Italians. Three tries in the first win on

French soil for 24 years was good, but seven in Treviso were more than almost any side in the world has managed against the Italians in recent years.

There was a 30-minute ourple patch in the second half when almost everything went

RUGBY UNION

BY ROB COLE in Treviso

right and the game turned into a romp for Wales. The measure of the advances made was superbly illustrated by the four tries that flowed in that time.

Having got off to a flying start, with Craig Quinnell notching his third try in as many games from a sixth-minute lineout, some silly errors allowed the Italians to claw their way back. By half-time, though, Gareth Thomas had steadied the ship with the first of his recordequalling four tries and Wales were back in front by two points. Then came the onslaught.

Thomas was sent between the

posts by Scott Gibbs and a minute later Dafydd James released Neil Jenkins on a 40metre run. There were two more in as many minutes at the start of the final quarter when Thomas raced in from halfway and Rob Howley gathered

a loose ball 35 metres out. Jenkins' boot made the damage even greater. By the end of the game he had extended by six his own Welsh points record for a match with 30.

The Italians grabbed a consolation try through the No 8
Diego Scaglia, but there was no
stopping Wales or Thomas and the Cardiff wing joined the immortals by gaining a fourth on the stroke of time to rank him alongside Willie Llewellyn, Reggie Gibbs, Maurice Richards, Ieuan Evans and Nigel Walker in the record books.

Italy: Tries Marun, Sungia: Cos Dominguer, Pensities Dominguer 3 Tries Tromas 4, C. Courrell, N. Irola Ivy. Conversions N. Jentins 5, Pensitrolans 1

Stra (Calvisino). A Moscardi. P Propers. V Cristoriolatico (ali Trevisi). M Glactical (Mas-bonne, Capit). A Signariam, O Seguida (Mas-bonne, Capit). A Signariam, O Seguida (Mas-bonne, Capit). A Signariam, O Seguida (Mas-bonne, Capit). Performance in Barcal (Posta-uai for Strack.) 27. O Antonica (RDS Roma) for Propers. 55. S Santonia (RDS Roma) for Propers. 55. S Santonia (RDS Roma) for Propers. 50. S Santonia (RDS Roma) for Propers. 50. S Santonia (RDS Roma) for Propers. 50. S Santonia (RDS Roma) for Propers. (Cartafi Masters Natural for Santonia (Cartafi Masters (Natural for Santonia (RDS Roma) for

Rematch set for September

EVANDER HOLYFIELD and Lennox Lewis have signed for a rematch, probably in September, according to Don King. The promoter claimed that he had obtained Holyfield's signature on Saturday for the rematch, and already had Lewis's agreement. The pair boxed to a controversial draw nine days'

"Tve signed both fighters for the rematch. When you have a dispute you have a rematch," King said. "Holyfield wants to fight in September, and Lewis wants to fight in September, so we're going to see if we can work it out for September."

A number of investigations have been launched into the fight and lawyers said angry British fans had begun legal The South African judge steps to seek damages.

"They want a return of the money spent on the trip on the basis that what they saw was not a fair and proper fight." said lawyer Stephen Alexander. People expected to see the heavyweight championship staged in a proper manner." Alexander said the claim

would be on behalf of two groups, the first from among the 8,000 Britons who went to New York for the fight and the second from those who saw it on pay television. The claims are being

brought against the promoters. the holiday companies and the New York Boxing Board of Control, the British lawyer said.

Stan Christodoulou, hailed for accurate scoring in the bout, faces a ban in his own country. South Africa's Sunday Times reported that Christodoulou may be barred from officiating in South African bouts to make way for "previously disadvantaged" officials when the national commission meets on Friday.

The paper quoted Archie Jonas, commissioner of Free State province, as saying a ban should be considered because Christodoulou "hasn't been kind to blacks and small guys".

ATHLETICS EQUESTRIANISM ATHLETICS

ROME MARATHON: Men: 1 P Tanui
(Kenya) 2hr 9mln 55esc: 2 D Kapitanov
(Rus) 2:10:10; 3 P Chirchir (Kenya)
2:10:15. Wosten: 1 M Viceconte (Iti)
2:29:38: 2 J Salumae (Est) 2:30:32; 3 L
Edato (Eth) 2:32:36.
LISBON HALF-MARATHON (Kenya
tariless stated): Men: 1 J Kosgei Ihr 1sec:
2 J Kimani 1:00:26; 3 P Rugut 1:00:31;
4 5 Korir 1:00:37; 5 P Nolrangu 1:01:15.
Wistens: 1 I Lorupe 1:07:52; 2 F Ribero
(Por) 1:08:44; 3 F Rochat-Mose; (Swit)
1:10:54; 4 S Matsno (Japan) 1:11:54; 5
C Irineu (Br) 1:12:18.

BASKETBALL

las 87: Minnesota 105 Denver 101; Portand 30 San Antonio 85: Golden State 90
Seattle 78. [Sat) New York 96 Boston
78; Washington 113 Cleveland 83;
Atlanta 77 Milwaukee 83; Miami 89 Indiana 94; Dallas 104 Sacramento 90;
Houston 103 Phoenix 93 (ot): Vancouver 88 San Antonio 92 (ot).
BUDWIESER LEAGUE: (Sat) Derby 76
Briningham 82: LeCester 70 Serficid 82;
Thames Valley 99 Edinburgh 62; Manchester 64 London Knights 66; Newcastle
92 Chester 83, (Sata) Greater London 71
Milyon Keynes 70.

BOWLS WOMEN'S HOME INTERNATIONAL INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIP (Belfast): Ireland by Wales 135-100 (in slops first) I Mulholland by L Evans 23-13: D Baird bt D Rowlands 27-15; I Evens bt I Ack-land 24-21: A McGuinness bt A Daintor

Fail: 1-29 2-29 3-49 4-49 5-54 6-55 7-57 8-93 9-100.

7-57-8-95-9-100. Bowling: Dale 16-5-32-2 (nb1); Miller 16-6-41-2 (nb2); Warne 14-7-26-3 (nb3); MacGill 3 1-2-3-3 (nb1). (mos): maccuin s 1-2-3-3 (not).
THREE-MATION TOURMAMENT
(Disaks, Bangladesh): Bangladesh 213
(50 overs; Shahnar Hossain 95); Kenya
215 for 2 (43.5 overs; S Tikolo 105no.
M Odumbe Söno). Kenya won by eight
wickets. Zimbatwe 310 for 5 (50 overs;
A Flower 79, A D R Campbell 55);
Rangladesh 184 (Mehrab Hossain 73) SHEFFIELD SHIELD Final (third day of five): Brisbane: Queensland 265 (A Symonds 113, D R Martyn 4-30) and 32 for 1: Western Australia 425 for 9 dec (5 M Katich 115, D R Martyn 85; B P Julian 84; A Symonds 4-83). BUSTA CUP Final (first day of four): Bridgetown: Barbados 258 for 8 (5 L Campbell 62. A F G Griffith 58) v Trinidad and Tobago.

CYCLING CYCLING

MILAN TO SAN REMO CLASSIC
(294km): 1 A Tchmir (Bel) Lotto Shr
52mm 37sec; 2 E Zabel (Ger) Deutsche
Idekom: 3 Z Spruch (Pol) Lampre: 4 S
Garzeili (it) Mercatone Uno; 5 L Aus (Est)
Casmo: 6 L van Bon (Neth) Rabobank:
7 P van Peregem (Bel) TVM: 8 J Planckaert (Bel) Lotto; 9 G Hincapie (US) US
Postal: 10 G Balducci (it) Navigare all
same time. GB: 21 M Sclandri s/t. WORLD CUP QUALIFIER ("s-Hertogenbosch, Neth): 1 Loro Piana Esprit (L.
Nieberg, Ger) clear, 30.69sec 2 RBG Finesse [E Hendrix, Neth) clear, 31.60; 3
Crusing [C Coyle, Ir] 3 faults, 46.12, GB;
5 Virtual Village Heyman (J Whitaker) 4
faults an 1st round; 16 Virtual Village Ir's
Octo (G Billington) 8 faults an 1st round,
Western European League: Standings: 1 B Mandi (Swrt) 680sts 2 J Toos
(Neth) 66; 3 L Beerbaum (Ger) 65. GB:
6 J Whitaker 51; 7 M Whitaker 43; 15 G
Billington 34.
LINCOLNSHIRE HORSE TRIALS: Open
Intermediates Section H: 1 Babiole du
Cochet (J Atkinson) 30 penalties; 2 Full
Throttle (G Parsonage) 34; 3 James Bigglesworth (M Clayton-Bailey) 36 Section
J: Tiwelve Bore IJ Johnson) 33; 2 Too Smart
(B Tait) 33; 3 Colonel Mellish IJ Arkunson)
34. Section K: 1 Broadcast News (M Todd)
32; 2 Stanwick Ghost (I Stark) 33; 3 Master Maillick (M Pickering) 39.

FOOTBALL

MANY SQUAD (v North

GERMANY SOUAD (v Northern Ireland, European Championship Qualifier, Group Three, Belfast, 27 March):
Goalkeepers: Kahn (Bayern Munich), Lehmann (Borussia Dortmund), Defenders: Babbel (Bayern Munich), Matthaus (Bayern Munich), Nowothy (Bayer Leveriusen), Reikmer (Hansa Rostock), Wörzs (Paris St-Germain), Wild-Reiders: Ballack (FC Kaiserslautern), Behilbri (Bayer Leverkusen), Hannann (Newcastle United), Heisarich (Florentina), Jeremiles (Bayern Munich), Mößer (Borussia Dortmund), Reich (Kaiserslautend), Belein (Kaiserslautend), Reich (Kaiserslautend), Re (Newcastle United), Heiarich (Forend-na), Jereules (Bayern Munich), Mößer (Borussia Dortmund), Relch (Kalser-slautern), Struzz (Bayern Munich), For-wards: Blerhoff (Milan), Bode (Werder Bremen), Jancker (Bayern Munich), Wirsten (Bayer Leverkusen), Neuwflie (Hänsa Rostock), Preetz (Hertha Benin).

GOLP

BAY HILL INVITATIONAL (Orlando, Fla) Leading third-round scores (US unless stated): 202 T Herron 65 69 67: D Love 69 66 67. 203 T Lehran 69 68 65. 206 B Chamblee 70 69 67. 208 B Estes 70 70 68: P Stewart 75 65 68: J Williamson 69 69 70. 209 S Jones 71 71 67: R Damron 70 71 68: P Mickelson 74 67 68; J Leonard 69 71 69: R Mediate

JJB SPORTS

Sheffield (8) 20, London (6) 26.
Sheffield: Tries Pearson 2, Shaw:
Goals Aston 4. London: Tries Fleming 2, Offiah, Peters: Goals Warton 5.
(3,269).

Sailford 2 0 0 2 22 52 0 Hull 2 0 0 2 9 66 0

NORTHERN FORD

PREMIERSHIP

Batley (14) 14, Bramley (2) 12, Batley: Tries Bargate, Price; Goals Price; Goals Price; Goals Price; Goals A Gibbons 2, (566).
Hull RR (6) 12, Doncaster (2) 2, Hull RR: Tries Bibby, Darby, Goals Charles 2, Doncaster: (2.056).
Hurslet (24) 44, Oldham (2) 2, Hurslet: Tries Plange 4, R Wilson 2, Famowna, Tawhal; Goals Fletcher 6, Oldham: Goal Ouinian. (1.533)

RUGBY LEAGUE RESULTS AND TABLES

73 67 69; V Singh (Fij) 69 70 70; D Pride 68 71 70; R Allerby (Aus) 72 66 71; S Pate 69 69 71. 210 D Toms 71 71 68; J P Hayes 70 70 70; J Sindelar 71 67 72. 211 B Cheesman 70 75 66; F Zoeller 72 71 68, C Pavin 73 69 69, S Hoch 71 70 70; K Triplett 70 71 70; C Parry (Aus) 72 67 72. Selected; 212 C Montgomerie (GB) 71 69 72; L Wiestwood (GB) 71 68 73. 214 E Eis (SA) 74 67 73. 216 I Woosnam (GB) 73 70 73, B Langer (Ger) 74 69 73
STANDARD REGISTER PING TOURNAMENT (Moon Valley, Phoenix, Arizona) Leading second-round scores (US unless stated): 205 K Webb (Aus) 68 68 69. 207 L Kane (Can) 66 70*71. 209 T Barrett 69 70 70; W Ward 70 71 69. 210 K Albers 71 73 66. 211 M Nause 68 73 70. 212 P Rizzo 73 70 69; A Sorenstam (Swe) 72 69 71; L Dawles (GB) 68 72 72; K Saids 70 70 72; H Alfredson (Swe) 69 89 74. 213 C Matthew (GB) 74 69 70; J Inister 68 75 70; C Johnston-Forbes 67 76 70; L Lindley 72 69

74 69 70: J Inister 68 75 70; C Johnston-Forbes 67 76 70; L Lindley 72 69 72. 214 E Klein 72 72 70; L Lindley 72 69 72. 214 E Klein 72 72 70; L Spalding 71 72 71; K Robbins 72 71 71; D Coejones (Cal) 65 76 73: M Estil 74 68 72. 215 B Daniel 72 72 71; E Dahloff (Swe) 75 70 69: J Geddes 75 69 71: M Kim (S Kor) 72 71 72; N Lopez 72 73 70; H Stacy 72 70 73; J Moodle (GB) 73 73 69. Selected: 217 S Gustafson (Swe) 71 72 74; S Cavalleri [It] 71 71 76. 218 D Barnard 73 70 75. 219 C Sorenstam (Swe) 78 67 74. 220 K Marshall (GBI (Swe) 78 67 74. 220 K Marshall (GB) 70 75 75.

HOCKEY

CELTIC CUP FOUR NATIONS UNDER-21 TOURNAMENT (Cork): ireland 5 Scotland 0: France 5 Wales 1. YOUTH TOURNAMENT (Cardiff): Under-18: Scotland 5 Ireland 2: Scotland 5 England 4: Ireland 4 Wales Ounder-16: Scotland 5 Ireland 2: Scotland 0 England 6: Wales 1 Ireland 3. and U England 5; Wales 1 Ireland 3.

EMI. Premier: Beeston 6 East Grinstead 1; Bourmille 0 Cannock 1; Brooklands 1 Canterbury 2; Guildford 2 Reading 3; Hounslow 1 Old Loughtonians 1; Beddington 3 Southgate 1. Beeston 5 Canterbury 2; Brooklands 4 East Grinstead 2; Guildford 5 Cannock 5; Hounslow 0 Southgate 2; Reading 2 Bourmille 3; Reddington 2 Old Loughtonians 7. Standings: 1 Cannock (P21.

Reighley (12) 30, Whitehaven (10) 16. Keighley: Tries Wood 2. Foster, Lee. Ramshaw; Goals Wood 5. Whitehaven: Tries Walsh 2, Lew-

Leigh (8) 16. Featherstone (6) 12. Leigh: Tries Fairclough. Hadcroft, Ingram; Goals D Purtill 2. Feather-stone: Tries Simonds. Stokes; Goals

Chapman 2. (1.003).

Rochdale (12) 22, Lancashire Lynx
(18) 27. Rochdale: Tries Cameron.
Coult, Fitzgerald, Hilton: Goals Fox 3.
Lancashire Lynx: Tries Abram.
Gildart. P Jones. Parsley: Goals P
Jones 5: Drop goal P Jones. (714).

Widnes (18) 36. Barrow (16) 16. Widnes: Tries Cassidy 2. Devecthi, Mansson, Munro, Salisbury: Goals

Whitehear; woars not 4. (2.24).
Workington: Tries Armstrong.
Arnold, Forber, Jenkins, Woodcock.
Goals Close 3. York: Tries Benn.
Edwards, Sini: Goal Benn. (904).

MRL: Parramatta 0 Sydney City 11: Balmain 26 North Queensland 18: Cronulla 28 South Sydney 12: Canberra 14 St George Illawarra 16: Canterbury 28 Newcastle 26: Manly 10 Auckland 26: Deptith 60 Weetern Sylvark 6: Brie-

Chapman 2. (1,603).

Pts52, champions): 2 Southgate (21-46): 3 Reading (21-40). First Diwision: Bromley O Doncaster 7: Eastcote O Barford Tigers 3: Hampstead & Westminster 2 Hawant 1: Harleston Magnes 6 Oxford Univ. 2: Indian Gymkhana 1 Lewes 1; Isca 3 St. Albans 3: Loughborough Students 0 Chelmsford 1; Oxford Hawks 3 Hull 1: Stourport 1 Sheffield 1: Surbiton 7 Firebrands 1. Final standings: 1 Surbiton (P19, Pts47), 2 Doncaster (19-46): 3 Lewes (19-42).

DTZ MIDLAND Premier: Coventry & North Warwick 4 Khalsa 2: Harborne 5 Hampton-in-Arden 1: Leek 1 Nottingham 1: North Norts 5 Oiton & West Warwick 5: North Stafford 0 Northampton Saints 8: Shrewsbury 2 Edgbaston 5. Standings: 1 Edgbaston (P22, Pts49; Champions): 2 Harborne (22-44): 3 Nottingham (21-43).

PREMIER HOLIDAYS EAST Premier: Bishops Stortford 7 Bedford Town 6. Bluebats 4 Crostyx 5; Cambnidge City 1 Ipswich 7: Cambnidge Univ. 1 Petertor-

Insulars a Crostyx 5; Cambridge City 1 Ipswich 7; Cambridge Univ. 1 Peterbor-ough Town 1; Clacton 2 West Hers 3. Standings: 1 Peterborough Town (P20. Pts47, champions); 2 Ipswich (20-44); 3 Cambridge University (19-42),

NORTH Premiter: Ben Rhydding 4 Neston 0: Formby 9 Warrington 0: Har-rogate 1 Rotherham 1: Norton 3 Chester 3; Sheffield Bankers 2 Bowdon 2. Standings: 1 Formby (P22. Pts 50, champions): 2 Sheffield Bankers (21-45): 3 Bowdon (22-45). WOMEN'S EHL Premier: Sutton Cold-field 1 Slough 6. Final standings: 1 Slough (P14, Pts32); 2 Ipswich (14-29) 3 Hightown (14-23).

3 Hightown (14-23).
WOMEN'S MIDLAND Premier: Bedford 5 Belper 3: North Staffs 4 Kettering 5: Olton Terraquest 3 Loughborough Students 0. Standings: 1 Bedford (P14, Prs34, champions): 2 Kettering (14-29); 3 Loughborough Students (14-27).
WOMEN'S EAST Premier: Bury St Edmunds 1 Blueharts 1: Dereham 4 Letchworth 0: Harleston Magpies 6 Ashford 0: Ipswich 1 Sevenoaks 1, Standlags:1 Harleston Magpies (P15, Pts39, champions): 2 Sevenoaks (15-28); 3 Ipswich (15-26).

CHAMPIONSHIP

INTERNATIONAL

WOMEN'S

INTERNATIONAL

......13 France . (at Worcester)

CHELTENHAM &

SEMI-FINALS

ALLIED DUNBAR

PREMERSHIP TWO

SUPER 12

gby13 Exeter_

......21 France .,

WOMEN'S WEST Premier: Exeter 0
Cheltenham 1: Extract 2 Sournemouth
2: Leominster 5 Portishead Fretvands 2:
Pedland 2 St Austell 3, Saurnemouth (P17,
Colwall 1: Standings: 1 Exmouth (P17,
Pts38): 2 Colwall (17-38): 3
Bournemouth (17-30).
WOMEN'S SOUTH First Division: City
of Portsmouth 1 Horsham 2, Dulwich 2
Hendon 0: Maidenhead 0 Tuise Hill 1;
West Witney 1 Southampton 3; Winchester 4 Reading 2. Standings: 1 Dulwich (P19, Pts50, champions): 2 Rover
Covicy (19-45): 3 Tuise Hill (19-41).
WOMEN'S TRYSPORTS THREE
COUNTIES First Division: City of
Oxford 1 Farnham Common 3; Henley 5
Rover Cowley 0: Milton Keynes 8 Wokingnam 0; Oxford University 2 PhoenorRanelagh 2: Reading 1 Oxford Hawks 2;
Sonning 2 West Witney 0: Windsor 1
Newbury 3, Wycombe Rye 1 Bracknell 3,
Standings: 1 Bracknell (P15, Pts38,
champions: 2 Newbury (15-34): 3
Oxford Hawks (15-30).

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH FORMULA 3 CHAMPIONSHIP (Donington) Round One: 1 M Hynes (GB) 29min 58.171sec: 2 J Button (GB) 30:02.049; 3 L Burti (Bra) 30:04.056.

NORDIC SKIING WORLD CUP (Oslo, Nor) Men's 50km cross-country: 1 M Botwinov (Aut) 1hr 55min 29.4sec: 2 B Daehlie (Nor) 1:56:25.2; 3 C Hoffman (Aut) 1:56:42.8; 4 A Prokurorov (Rus) 1:57.26.1: 5 F Valbusa (It) 1:57:47.9;

RUGBY UNION RESULTS AND TABLES JEWSON NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE

Hinckley23 6 1 16 370 629 13 Lichfield23 2 0 21 305 779 4 Wrton Pk23 2 0 21 256 876 4

WELSH NATIONAL

LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION

FIRST DIVISION

TENNENT'S VELVET

FIRST DIVISION

SECOND DIVISION: Aberdeen 10 Selkirk 15; Klmarnock 28 Dundee HSFP 61. THERD DIVISION: Gordonians 42 Stew-

ckwood13 Pontypool15 degar.......52 Maesteg......11 rthyr18 Cross Keys21 sbridge23 Bonymaen8

Postponed: Caerphilly v Newport.

6 J Jesus Gutierrez (Sp) 1:58:24.8; 7 A
Bergstrom (Swe) 1:58:59.3; 8 W Vilirsov (Rus) 1:59:26.0; 9 K Skjeldaj
(Nory) 1:59:27.4; 10 M Mytlyla (Fin)
1:59:42.3. Final overall cap standlags: 1 Daentie 885pts: 2 Borwinov
685; 3 Mytlyla 573; 4 M Fredriksson
(Swe) 484; 5 P Elofsson (Swe) 465; 6
Bergstroem 454; 7 E Bjervig (Nor)
406; 8 J Isometsa (Fin) 370, 9
Prokurorov 366; 10 E Jevne (Nor) 318.
Women's 30km cross-country classic: 1 J Ichepalova (Rus) 1hr 14min
15.0sec; 2 S Belmondo (It) 1:15-58.5;
3 K Smgun (Est) 1:16:27.7; 4 M Theuri
(Aut) 1:16-54.1; 5 S Nageykina (Rus)
1:17:48.4; 8 G Paruzzi (It) 1:17:59.4;
9 A Rezisona (Rus) 1:18:18.2; 10 I Taranerko-Terella (Ukr) 1:18:23.9. Final
overall cup standings: 1 B Martirsen
(Nor) 768pts: 2 Belmondo 768 (fewer
wirs than Martirsen); 3 Gavrilyuk 705;
4 Smgun 666; 5 Lazudna 648; 6 K Neu-

wirs than Martinsen); 3 Gavrilyuk 705; 4 Srrigun 666; 5 Lazutina 648; 6 K Neu-marinova (Cz Rep) 618; 7 Nageykina 530; 8 O Danilova (Rus) 507; 9 Reztso-va 490; 10 A Ordina (Swe) 430, Nation Cup: Overalli: 1 Norway 7,611pts; 2 Russia 6,588; 3 Italy 4,469; 4 Sweden 3,921; 5 Finland 3,256, Men: 1 Nor-way 4,522; 2 Sweden 3,032; 3 Austria 2,732; 4 Finland 2,198; 5 Italy 2,011; Women: 1 Russia 5,075; 2 Norway 3,089; 3 Italy 2,458; 4 Estonia 1,400 RALLYING

RALLYIN G

RALLY OF PORTUGAL (Porto) Leading positions (after first day): 1 C

McRae (GB, Ford) 3min 12.3sec 2 M

Gronholm (Fin. Mitsubishi) plus 0.4sec: 3 C Sainz (Sp. Royota) + 0.9sec: 4 D Auriol (Fr. Toyota) + 2.0: 5 T Makinen (Fin. Mitsubishi) +2.1: 6 J Kankkunen (Fin. Subaru) +2.6: 7 A Schwarz (Ger. Skoda) +3.2: 8 M Martin (Est. Ford) +3.6: 9 P Llatti (It. Seat) +3.9. 10 H Rovanpera (Fin. Seat) and P Hagstrom (Fin. Ryota) +4.3: 12 R Burns (GB, Subaru) +4.5: 30 A McRae (GB, Hyundai) +16.9.

SKI JUMPING SKI JUMPIN G
WORLD CUP Finals (Planica, Slowenia) Second event: 1 H Miyahira (Japan) 387-9pts (first jump 205.0m. 192.0m); 2 M Schmitt (Ger) 387-6 (203.5, 202.0); 3 N Kasai (Japan) 375-9 (182.0, 207.5); 4 K Brenden (Nor) 362.8 (204.5, 179.5); 5 M Harada (Japan) 360.0 (192.5, 192.5); 6 C Dutfiner (Ger) 358.1 (207.5, 178.0); 7 K Funalai (Japan) 351.3 (181.0, 185.5); 8 J Ahonen (Fin) 350.7 (188.5, 180.0); 9 R Schwarzenberger (Aut) 336.4

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SPEED SKATING
SHORT-TRACK WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (Sofia): Finals: Men:
500m: 1. Jiajun U (Ch) 42.565sec; 2
A A Ohno (US) 42.679; 3 F Carta (k)
43.072. 1,000m: 1 Satoru Terao
(Japan) Imin 30.913sec; 2 Dong-Sung
Kim (S Kor) 1:31.242; 3 A Chulna (Can)
1:31.935 3,000m: 1 Jiajun Li (Ch)
5min 11.544sec; 2 5 Terao (Japan)
5:11.663; 3 F Carta (k) 5:11.673.
5,000m: relay: 1 China 7min

(177 0. 182.5); 10 H Jakle (Ger) 334.7 (185.0, 176.0). Leading overall standings: 1 M Schmitt (Ger) 1.693pts: 2 J Ahonen (Fin) 1.666: 3 K Funaki (Japan) 1.539; 4 N Kasal (Japan) 1.498: 5 S Hannawald (Ger) 856: 6 H Miyahira (Japan) 855: 7 A Widhölzi (Aut) 833: 8 S Horngacher (Aut) 789, 9 M Harada (Japan) 684: 10 D Thoma (Ger) 555.

5,000m relay: 1 China 7min 07.395sec. 2 South Korea 7:09.725; 3 Canada 7:13.806. Women: 500m: 1 Yang (A) Yang (Ch) 44.64 sec: 2 E Radanova (Bul) 44.789; 3 Yang (5) Yang (Ch) 44.889. 1,000m:: 1 Yang (A) Yang Imin 37.440sec; 2 Yang (5) Yang 1:37.547; 3 Kim Moon-Jung (S Kor) 1:37.675. 3,000m: 1 Yang (A) Yang 5:48.573; 3 Yang (5) Yang 5:49.381. 3,000m relay: 1 China 4min 23.725 sec: 2 Italy 4:25.131: 3 Bulgaria sec; 2 Italy 4:25.131; 3 Bulgaria 4:25.930.

SUMO

SPEEDWAY

TOURNAMENT (Osaka of 15): Tokitsuumi (4-4) bi eight day of 15): Tokitsuumi (4-4) bt Asanowaka (3-5): Hamanoshima (3-5) bt Asanosho (4-4): Mitolzumi (2-6) bt

V good at attitude 30

140

110 170 21.3

TENNIS

LIPTON CHAMPIONSHIPS (Key Bischayne, Florida) Men's singles, second round: A Corretta (Sp) bt M Damm (Carep) 6-2 6-2; S Grostean (Fi) bt G Kuerten (Bra) 6-3 7-6; Bigotikman (Swe) bt A Medwedev (Ukr) 1-6 6-1 6-2; J Stoltenberg (Jaus) bt W Black (Zim) 6-4 1-6 7-6; R Delgado (Par) bt B Blitmach (Carep) 2-6 6-1 6-2; A Costa (Sp) bt S Dosedet (Carep) 2-6 6-3 6-3, B Kuera (Swe) 7-6 2-6 6-3. D Hrbary (Slowal) bt A Agassi (US) 1-6 6-3 6-2; C Moya (Sp) bt D Sanguinetti (It) 6-3 4-6 6-1; K Kucera (Skowl) bt P Haarhurs (Neth) 6-2 6-2; J Antonio Mann (C Rico) bt A Bersastegui (Sp) 2-1 ret; P Sampras (US) bt J Course (US) 6-3 7-6, A Pavel (Rom) bt M Rosser (Swé) 6-4 4-6 7-6; N Lapentti (Ecul bt T Haas (Ger) 5-7 7-6 6-2; M Roos (Chile) bt S Draper (Aus) 7-5 6-3; M Philippoussis (Aus) bt L Heentt (Aus) 6-3 6-4; B Black (Jam) bt L 7-6: N Lapentri (Ecul bt T Hass (Ger) 5-7
7-6: 6-3: M Rios (Chiel) bt 5 Draper (Aus)
7-6: 6-3: M Rios (Chiel) bt 5 Draper (Aus)
7-6: 6-3: M Philippoussis (Aus) bt 1.
Hewatt (Aus) 6-3: 6-4: B Black (Zim) bt N Escude (Fr) 6-4: 6-3: M Safin (Rus) bt B Becker (Ger) 6-6-6: M Safin (Rus) bt B Becker (See (7-5: 6-0).
Nomen's singles, second round: M Weingartner (Ger) bt 5 Festud (Fr) 6-2
7-6: P Schmyder (Swit) bt M de Swardt (SA) 6-3: 6-3. A Mauresmo (Fr) bt Fang Li (Ch) 6-2: 3-0 ret, M Hings (Swit) bt K Habsudova (Slovak) bt 5 Pirschke (Aut) 4-6: 6-3: 7-6: J Haland-Decugs (Fr) bt M Muddleton (US) 6-3: 6-0: A Coetzer (SA) bt E Tatarkova (Ukr) 6-2: 7-5, V Ruano-Poscual (Sp) bt R Grande (Rt) 6-4: 6-2. V Williams (US) 6-3: 6-1: A Kournflova (Rus) bt K Brand (US) 6-7: 6-0: 6-2; J Novotna (Cz Rep) bt A Smashnova (Ris) 6-0: 6-1: F Zuluaga (Col) bt I Majoli (Croa) 7-5: 7-5: N Tauriat (Fr) bt B Rittner (Ger) 6-2: ret: R Dragomir (Rom) bt 1 Spriea (Rom) 6-0: 6-4: M Drake (Can) bt C Block (Zim) 6-1: 6-3: A Huber (Ger) bt T Panova (Rus) 4-6: 6-6-1: A Kremer (Lus) bt A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) 1-6: 6-4: 6-1: Davenport (US) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 6-0: 6-3: N Dectry (Fr) bt M Shoughnessy (US) 7-6: 3-6: 6-2: 5: Farina (R) bt M Orake (Lus) bt M Sanchez Vicario (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-4: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-4: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-4: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-4: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-4: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-6: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-6: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-6: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-6: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-6: N Serma (Sp) bt M Ramon (Sp) 1-6: 7-5: 6-6: N Serma (Sp) bt A Molik (Aus) 6-2: 6-3: A Frazer (US) bt A Molik (Aus) 6-2: 6-3: M Serma (Sp) bt A Molik (Aus) 6-2: 6-3: M Serma (Sp) bt A Molik (Aus) 6-2: 6-3: M Serma (Sp) Men's semi-finals: N Gould (Awon) bt B

(US) bt A Molik (Aus) 6-2 6-3.
GIROBANK TOUR (Swansea) Men's semi-finais: N Gould (Avon) bt B Fulcher (Norfolk) 6-2 3-6 6-4; C Bennett (Hereford & Worrs) bt P Hand (Berks) 7-6 2-6 7-5; Final: Gould bt Bennett 7-6 6-3. Women's semi-finals; J Dawson (Sussex) bt N Woodhouse (Norfolk) 6-2 ret; K Eillott (Herts) bt C Coombs (Kent) 6-0 6-3. Final: Eillott bt Dawson 7-6 6-4.

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HE INDEPENDENT

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breasy let as a test the promon the below companies mile New York Busine Boadele. troi, the best-blance The South Macanine Man Christophaladal accommon common to the last faces after a horizona.

now on," muttered a whiteshirted England supporter into his mobile phone as the few remaining after-match drinkers took farewell gulps from their plastic pint mugs and sloshed their way out of Twickenham's Ruck and Maul bar. On the face Carolina alea destra of it, he had a point: the red rose Kingston and School School performance had been decidedly functional - masses of David Batty very little David Ginola while the strangely conciliatory

> Moore, all is forgiven. But beauty, we are constantly reminded, is in the eye of the beholder and when a the Springbok world champions technical obsessive like Phil Larder is doing the beholding. it can be found in the unlikeliest places. Certainly, there was a good deal in Saturday's Five Nations occasion that tickled Larder's aesthetic fancy: the former Great Britain rugby league coach saw cherry blossom in England's defensive alignment, a Monet landscape in their exertion of pressure and a veritable Claudia Schiffer in Matt Perry's try-saving tackle dangerous Tricolore wing sought to turn the game with a

French forwards had paid mere

lip service to the spirit of Can-

tona. There was no zip and even

less zap. Come back Brian

first-half try in the right corner.

"I THINK FII stick to football from By CHRIS HEWETT at Twickenham

AT B. W.

-

Monus

Martin Johnson's towering leap at the line-out symbolises England's tactical dominance over the disappointing French forwards at Twickenham on Saturday

England's hard-nosed day



way of thinking is increasingly in the ascendant - the glittering prizes go to those sides who consider parsimony to be a virtue rather than a vice. Think of Leicester in the Allied Dunbar Premiership, or South Africa in last year's Tri-Nations. And now think of England, who recently kept their line intact against Australia and Ireland. leaked only one five-pointer to and would, but for an injurytime fluke at the weekend, have blanked out the most naturally

gifted attackers in the game for

only the fifth time in the last

four decades of Anglo-French "We took a very hard look at ourselves after conceding three rather unnecessary tries to the Scots in our opening Five Nations game last month and decided that our defensive discipline had let us down badly." on Xavier Garbajosa as the said Larder, who has erected more "No Entry" signs in his 54 years than the Department of Transport. "If you look at the their own." To Larder's way of thinking tape, there was nothing much

operating a zonal defence. Our hits were good and strong, but the Scots backed themselves to get the ball away either in or shortly before contact and put people in the holes. "There was a big improve-

man on man, rather than

ment against Ireland and I've

seen another step up on this occasion. The French asked us more questions than either the Wallabies or the Springboks – they really are extraordinarily threatening from one to 15 but we pinned them back and denied them space. At times, they put together a dozen passes and still couldn't break out of their own 22. The late try was a dis appointment, yes, but I'm not going to cry about it; no defence is watertight against a speculative kick ahead, especially when you get a wicked bounce. The thing now is to take the good things out of the game and prepare for the Grand Slam match with Wales, who have some creative runners of

By the time Franck Comba wrong with our contact work pocketed Philippe Carbon-The problem concerned our neau's awkward diagonal chip positioning we were tackling and slipped away from the

disappeared from French view in the grand manner, far from it; every last one of their points were registered via the left boot of Jonny Wilkinson and given that all but one of his record-equalling seven penalties were fairly workaday in terms of angles and distances, the teenager's feat was not of the same magnitude as that of Simon Hodgkinson, whose

marksmanship at a windbuffeted Parc des Princes nine years retains pride of place in the goal-kicking pantheon. But Lawrence Dallaglio's methodically prepared and laving down all kinds of markers for this autumn's World Cup. While Dan Luger and David Rees, now sadly departed for a six-week spell of

intensive physiotherapy on a badly sprained ankle, undoubtedly craved more of the ball during the second half, England were in no hurry to apologise for winning a very loseable match in precisely the same way that great All Black teams have prevailed since Noah was in short pants.

They squeezed the French so hard - not so much in the scrummage, where Sylvain Marconnet and Franck Tournaire dominated the grunt-andgroan contest before the break, but pretty well everywhere else

wrong-footed Perry, England penalties, 14 of them in their outside-half from Castres gave were out of sight. They had not own half. By contrast, Dallaglio his heart and soul to the occaand company were penalised just nine times in 80 minutes could be said for some of his forand committed only three of those offences on their own doorstep. If good teams convert pressure into three-point opportunities, there was something state of the art about England at the weekend.

Mind you, they also invented new ways of not scoring. Mike Catt's extraordinary decision to ignore an entire battalion of support in favour of a home run of his own was the most cringingly embarrassing moment ' Guscott snovia have finished in the left corner after Catt's diagonal kick, Larger's clever impersonation of

fine days, England will be made to pay for their carelessness. Suffice to say that the French would not have thrown away such chances like so much confetti. Thomas Castaignède, whose potential meeting with Scotland's Gregor Townsend in Paris in three weeks' time should leave every rugby connoisseur in Europe in a state of exquisite expectation,

spent virtually the whole 80

minutes on the back foot yet still

managed to play like some

bleach-blond Barry John. The

instantaneous flick inside had

sion, which was more than wards, and his honesty in tackling and turning every last member of the England pack was no less remarkable than the accuracy of his line-kicking or the boundless imagination he brought to his attacking game. Who knows? Had Perry not

forced Garbajosa to slide a foot into touch a mere panosecond before touching the ball down at the right corner flag during the visitors' lone purple patch before the interval, Castaignède might of the championship to date - have taken the rest of his side Clive Woodward's expression with him into the stratosphere. sharply focused side are now was positively Gorgonesque - As it was, too many of the big French names - Ibanez, Pelous Carbonneau, even Ntamack remained stuck on the launch pad. It is not always possible to a line-out jumper and Perry's set the blue touchpaper alight with a single match. unlocked the door. One of these

With a Single match.

ENGLAUD: M Perry (Bath): D Raes (Sale), J Gosporte (Bath). J Williamston (Newcastle), D Logor (Paricquins): M Cast (Bath). R Brackins (Saracens); J Leenard (Paricquins), R Cacharita (Leicoster), D Garforth (Leicoster), M Johnson (Leicoster), T Rod-ber (Northampton), R 148 (Saracens), L Dalagilo (MoSpo, capt). N Back (Leicoster).

Replacements: M Dansson (Northampton) of Brackins J M M Cours II deleted for LBI lagifo (Wesps, capt), N Back (Leicester).
Replacements: M Dausson (Northampton) for Bracken, 34: M Corry (Leicester) for Hill.
49: N Beal (Northampton) for Rees, 63: V Ubegs (Bath) for Garforth, 78.
FERNICE: E Ritamack: (Foulouse); X Garbaiges (Butle): P Glordian (Dax), F Combo (Stade Français), C Donalaid (Stade Français); T Castalgaide (Castres): P Carbennan (Brive): S Marronspet (Stade Français), R Romez (Perpignan, Capt), F Teamanire (Foulouse), O Brounst (Bégles-Bordeaux), F Pelous (Toulouse), T Livingmann (Perpignan), Callifet (Stade Français), E Castal (Bezers). Replacements: C Callifano (Stade Français) for Pelous, 65; M Ragnaud (Narborne) for Levernon, 65; Reference C Harrier (New Zealand; J Fiem-

Jonny Wilkinson kicked seven from seven attempts

summer, Alred got him to speed up his kicking a little in order to reduce the possibility of freezing over the ball. Now he is impressed by the way the player's temperament produces the kind of consistency we saw on Saturday. "He's the kind who gets very annoyed and aggressive when it's not going quite right," Alred said. "Some of them just shrug and tell themselves it'll be all right on

should ever have a bad run."

being forced to make rash ones under pressure." Now doesn't that, too, remind you of England's last matchwinning outside half? As, on Saturday, did his touch-kicking

from the hand, which was a model of prudence and reliability but lacked the sense of adventure that Mike Catt brought to his raking touchfinders. When Clive Woodward finally decides to make the switch, we'll learn how deep that prudence runs, and how much of a boy's spirit lives be-

nights during the week before an

international, but no one - least

of all his opponents – would ever

know. "I try to keep as composed

as possible," he said, "and I try

to go for the right decisions, not

Townsend thrives on support act

BY TIM GLOVER at Murrayfield

THIS WAS a game of two outside Humphreys starts has been halves. Gregor Townsend, one of the key players in the Lions' success in South Africa in 1997, is now the key player in Scotland's surprising renaissance. In terms of footballing ability David Humphreys is equally gifted but whereas Townsend has a supporting case, the Ulsterman

seems to be on his own. Both players have improved since making career changes; Townsend from Northampton to Brive, Humphreys from London Irish to Dungannon. On 10 April Townsend has a chance to elevate his country to a share of the championship; for Humphreys, who tasted nectar when Ulster won the European Cup, the Five Nations stage had a trap door.

"Gregor has his pace back, he's maturing and shaping games very nicely," John Rutherford, the former Scotland outside-half and now assistant coach, said. "That was one of the best games he's ever played."

Townsend should be in his element when Scotland play France in Paris in three weeks time. If he scores a try he will become only the fifth player in the 89-year history of the championship to cross the line against every other country in the same season

In previous seasons Townsend's star has not been quite as bright, probably because Northampton and Scotland, weren't sure whether to play him at outside-half or centre. The try he scored against Ireland here was a classic centre's move, receiving, instead of giving a pass from John Leslie.

Jim Telfer's promotion of Leslie has been a great success, not only for Scotland but for Townsend. The two have developed a canny relationship and their innate skills mean that they invariably do the right things at the right time. Having a player of Leslie's ability outside him has clearly boosted Townsend's confidence.

By contrast Humphreys does not have a Leslie at his shoulder to exploit the opportunities created. With his first touch, Humphreys expertly released the dynamic Dion O'Cuinneagain in an attack that resulted in a penalty try and a 7-0 lead in the second minute.

The fact that Ireland failed to cross the Scottish line again on Saturday was not only down to the tenacity of the home defence but the sterility of those around Humphreys and the futility of the game plan. Their inability to finish off what

13

(LITERY)

obvious from match one when Ireland failed to score a try against France in Dublin despite a giut of possession Keith Wood's try against Wales at Wembley seems to have persuaded coach Warren

Gatland that the hooker is Ireland's most potent weapon. Wood spends as much time loitering in the threeouarter line as he does in the pack but there is no longer an element of surprise in seeing him used as a battering ram. Had he been employed as a decoy, Ireland might have prospered.

And that was not the only area of play in which they had Wood sussed. England's assistant coach, John Mitchell, had spotted that it was easier to pinch ball off Wood's throw-in. A little twitch of Wood's hand signals when the ball is being released and Scotland, too, exploited this with Scott Murray winning three Irish line-outs.

Throughout the championship, Gatland has been reluctant to trust his backs. Scotland, on the other hand, have been reinvented. Their four tries against Ireland took their total in three games to 11. Ireland have three tries from four matches. Perhaps the difference was encapsulated midway through the second half when Wood made his umpteenth charge in the shadow of the Scottish post, the ball was lost and Townsend's break supported by Glenn Metcalfe. Cameron Murray and Leslie ended in a wonderful try by Stuart Grimes.

"I'm absolutely delighted." Gary Armstrong, the Scotland captain, said. "There's now real belief in this team. We have been working hard on counter attacking and it paid off."

Even without their Lions' prop Tom Smith, who broke a leg just before half-time. Scotland will fancy their chances at the Stade de France.

the Stade de France.

SCOTLARD: G Metcalle (Glascon Hode):
C Morray (Rusch). A Talt (Nessel.) J. Leslie
(Sarot). K Legan (Masch.) G Desmand
(Sarot). K Legan (Masch.) G Desmand
(Brot). G Armstrang (Rescutzle Capt.) T
Selbs (Durdee High School FP). G Ballock
(Mest of Scotland). P Barrison (Masch.)
(Sarbinans). P Mattern (Nesch.) Gerlines (Masch.)
(Sarbin.) M Leslie (Editional) S Gerlines (Masch.)
(Sarbin.) M Leslie (Editional) Reviews (Replacements: D Hilliam (Bath) for Smith 40.
B Pountane (Morrhalton) for Smith 40.
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S Leegseaff (Durdee HSFP) for C Martay 75.
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BELLARD: C O'Sbean (London bish). J Biell
(Durgsmon). G Desgany) (Lertine Callege).
D Hamphoreys (Durgsmon). C McGellaness
(S Marv's College). P Colonessy (Value, MarSier). K Missed (Harlequins). P Wistman,
Serial College). P John Saroters: Cupt. J
Dandities (Castrel). B C Colonessy (Value, MarSier). Helpsacement College). A Ward (Ballymahlach). Replacements: V Costello (St.
Mary's College) for Miser 16. R Henderson
(Waspe) for Det 63. T Bramman S Marv's
College) for Ward 64. C Scally (Linkersity College Dublin for McCallenes 5.
Raferon: D Bevon (Wales).

Wilkinson's modesty is familiar and eerie

Saturday, hemmed in by a couple of dozen reporters, responding to their questions contact, with frankness and boy's willingness to apply him-helped him find his place in the with a proper measure of eyeself-deprecation, and with scrupulous attention to the

point. No evasion, no jokes. At 19, Jonny Wilkinson had just won England's match against France off his own boot, striking seven successful penalty kicks from seven attempts with absolute assurance. Confronting England's most feared European opponents for the first time, he

never looked like missing. It was the end of a day that had begun soon after breakfast, when he and Dave Alred, the squad's kicking coach, had taken a few balls out on to the Twickenham pitch and spent an hour at practice, kicking from short distances and at angles so tight that Wilkinson had only a metre at which to aim. An hour before the kick-off, they came back and repeated the exercise. Later when Alred discussed his pupil, one phrase kept coming

The centre's classy display started long before the game and continued

well afterwards. By Richard Williams

self to the task of maximising squad. Tve been eased into it a naturai talent. "His father brought him to me at 16," Alred said, "and he's worked as hard as anyone I've

ever worked with. He's like Rob and Paul [Grayson] in that they're all willing to stay out there and do the tough bit mentally. And kicking is something they enjoy doing, just like other people enjoy hitting a golf ball." Not until he swaps his inside-

centre's jersey for England's No 10 shirt, perhaps in time for the forthcoming Rugby World Cup, will we know just how closely Jonny Wilkinson resembles Rob Andrew. But there is already something familiar about the almost eerie modesty that England's latest sporting prodigy displays in public. "The kicking is fine," he said solemnly, "but it's just one small part of my game and

I've got a lot to learn." He was keen to pay tribute to up, "Just like Rob," he kept saythe way older players had his team with a guarantee of ing on tour in Australia last suffer from nerves and sleepless hind that mature facade.

Ing, when trying to describe the

as opposed to pushed in," he said, "thanks to the experienced guys like Jerry Guscott and Mike Catt and Paul Grayson."

This is one of the qualities be also shares with Michael Owen, last summer's phenomenon of another World Cup. Others include not just the schoolboy good looks but the instinctive neatness of movement, the industry and the decisiveness that combine to create an unmistakeable presence on the

And there is a precocious gravity that might even be unique. It was impossible not to be struck by something Wilkinson said last week: "My whole rugby life is about dedication, application and respect for

On a day when virtually the only impressive thing about England was the result they

minutes, he had punished three moments of French indiscipline with straightish kicks from between 25 and 30 metres. The first two kicks were mishits," Alred pointed out. "But he'd got the lines absolutely right. And it's all about getting the line right, both in your leg and in your head." Wilkinson's economical side-

footed action was the result of hundreds of hours of practice, according to Alred. "When he came to me he was a typical sidewinder, not unlike Rob. But Rob was already 30 when I started to work with him. Jonny was 16. Obviously it's much better to begin with a player at that age. I tried to help him evolve a style that gets him putting more power through the ball in the direction he wants it to go. There are a lot of natural kickers who kick through the ball, and there's only a small piece of their foot applying power. It's just like golf You have to get your weight through the ball. But, I tell you, it's all the result of hard work. There's no secret."



the night. But Jonny, like Paul Grayson, will stay out there unfil he's got it right." But how will he respond to the inevitable run of bad form with the boot? "If he carries on like this, I don't see why he

Worldly top class in Dubai exams

THE BIRCH has stopped flying and now we must wait for the sand. The Cheltenham Festival roar has died and the racing caravan moves on to the Middle East and the Dubai World Cup on Sunday.

Like Prestbury Park, Nad Al Sheba will offer equine excellence, but that is where the comparison ends. Most stark is the reward between Flat and National Hunt. The World Cup will take just over two minutes to run under floodlights, but the prize fund sloshing around will be more than the 20 races of the Festival put together.

The Godolphin team which winters in the Emirates saddles four runners in Sunday's race. This unit is all about harvesting big pots and prestige prizes and is a strategy which will be detrimental to British racing this spring. seasonal use on Sunday).

Guineas and it seems the Classic no longer holds great allure for them. Their best horses will not be pointed at Newmarket this May, rather the equally prestigious and more financially rewarding forum of Louisville

BY RICHARD EDMONDSON

this year's Classic generation began in the desert yesterday. Those that are considerations for Europe will not be asked to repay their pampered keep until early next month, but we now know that Worldly Manner and, most importantly, Aljabr, will not be among them.

Worldly Manner's concentration on Louisville is no surprise. He is an American horse purchased for a reputed \$4m (£2.4m) last year. Aljabr, though, we thought was ours. He won three times in Europe last season, culminating in a victory in the Prix de la Salamandre which made him ante-post favourite for the Gumeas (the disqualified runner-up in the Longchamp race, Stravinsky is, incidentally, in line to make his seasonal debut at the Curragh

Now, though, Aljabr has emigrated in the competitive sense. He is one of a batch of horses which will send the royal blue colours swerving around North American tracks this next few months. The unbeaten colt returns to the land The great series of trials for of his breeding now aware of

Aljabr, who was beaten by Worldly Manner in yesterday's trials in Dubai, but still heads for the Kentucky Derby nered by Jerry Bailey, the American who has already won two Dubai World Cups. The steering on Aljabr was conducted by John Velazquez, the Puerto Rico-born jockey who rode Philip Mitchell's Running Stag (who has arrived in Dubai

> RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: C-Harry (Southwell 2.45) NB: Nifty Norman (Southwell 4.50)

for Sunday's race) in the Breeders' Cup Classic last November. "This was a race in everything but name," Crisford said. "None of the riders involved will tell you that was not a proper contest. That was our first major checkpoint with our young horses and Aljabr was the reference

point because we know what his quality and class is." Soon it will be time for Cris-

ford to get his suitcase out of the

attic. "We've been preaching an international theme over the last few years," he said. "At the moment we're preparing to come back to Europe for the Classics, preparing to go to Hong Kong and a campaign in Japan, and we're also preparing a team of horses to go to North America for the Triple Crown series, kicking off with the Kentucky Derby. That's a first for us. It adds a new dimension to what we're trying to achieve at this stage of the

tainly moved." Among the sports fields with which Godolphin will still be associated is the Rowley Mile at Newmarket. They have

year. The goalposts have cer-

22 of the 89 entries in the 2,000 Guineas, nine of them unbeaten, Team Emirates also trains 13 of the 83 considerations in the 1,000 Guineas.

Further ahead, Godolphin is responsible for 19 of the 143 entries in the Derby, many of them Countdown commdrum names such as Mukhalif, Mutafaweq and Rhagaas.

However, there are only four out of 142 immates at Dubai's Al Quoz stable - surely the most valuable racing shed on earth - which matter immediately. High-Rise, the transferred Derby winner, Daylami, Almutawakei (128 points at Scrabble) and Central Park will stride out under the lights on Sunday, 3,500 miles away from Greenwich, and attempt to keep the dirhams in the treasure chest.

Last year's winner, Silver

Charm, and Victory Gallop are monstrous American challengers in the way. "We've got a very solid chance," Crisford said. "Last year we came very close with Swain, but this time

our team is stronger all round. "High-Rise is doing very well and we're not concerned about the distance or the surface with him. He's got to do it on the night and there is always that doubt, but all the indications are that he is in cracking form. He's giving us the right signals.

"Daylami's a horse that has to be respected at the trip. Almutawakel could run a very nice race indeed, and, like him, Central Park has really jumped up on this surface." At least. Godolphin have had the grace to leave the Grand National to the shivering impoverished of the jumping community.



THE LEADING Hong Kong apprentice jockey Wai "Willy" Kan. who rode in Britain last summer, died yesterday after a fall at Sha Tin. She was on Happy King, who stepped on another horse's heels on the turn.

Kan, 20, was trampled by other horses and lost consciousness. She was taken to the Prince of Wales Hospital where she underwent emergency surgery but died later.

Kan won an apprentice race at Haydock in July on the David Nicholls-trained Nervous Rex. Her mount crashed through the rail after the winning post that day, leaving Kan with concussion and an eye injury.

"She was a lovely girl." Nicholis recalled vesterday. "She would work from two in the morning until late at night." Conditions were wet at Sha

Edward Whitaker Tin and two other riders also suffered falls, with minor injuries for Eric St-Martin. The course has been the scene of several accidents. The Derbywinning rider Brian Taylor was killed in a fall in 1984, while Walter Swinburn sustained lifethreatening injuries in a fall from Liffey River in 1996.



NEWCASTLE

2.00 Pomic 2.30 Edstone 3.00 Buckshee 3.30 Monis

4.35 Young Steven 5.05 Head For The Hills

GOING: Soft.

Left-hand, oval course; tough, galloping track.

Left-hand, oval course; tough, galloping track.

Course is on A1, 5m N of rown. ADMISSION: Club 515 (213 for OAPs/disabled); Tattersals 510 (28 for OAPs/disabled); Saver Fing 51 (23 for OAPs/disabled). CAR PARK: Fine.

LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 92 204 (255%), J H Johnson 13-127 (102%), J M Jefferson 12-59 (203%), L Lungo 12-84 (143%).

BLEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 45-158 (291%), R Garritty 20-102 (195%), A Dobbin 19-138

(13.8%), B Storey 14-154 (21%) ■ FAVOURITES: 159 wires from 368 races (success rate 43.2%) BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Muhtadi (2.30), Distinct (2.30 visored) O AO NORTHERN RACING NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) \$5,000

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ľ	4	4-45P5	COMMON SOUND (46) (D) (Kinneston Pacent) J Barclay 8 Tl 2	_A Thornton
ı	5	4-0PP5	ISLE OF RHUM (10) (Hamiton House Ltd) P Moment 7 11 2	B Storey
ı	5	231P0U	KOBALT (POL) (14) (I Campoell) A Whitens 5 ti 0	_i Jardine (7)
ı	7	-0003P	BRAVE MAN (20) (\$ J Curts) \$ J Curts 5 to 8	O McPhail (5)
I			-7 declared -	
ı	BET	TING: 4-6	i Barnburgh Boy, 6-4 Pornic, 14-1 Common Sound, 33-1 others	

1998: no corresponding race

FORM GUIDE

fences when beaten 16 lengths by smart Aghawadda Gold (2m row, good to soft) lat-est. Probably has scope for more improvement and sure to be tough mut to crack Pomitic Useful ex-Prench chase; three-time score in useful company at Autsul, Should be sharper for English debut 6th of 20 to Chell Vilandance over hundles here last month and could play a major role if can handles the switch to English fences. Acts on soft College Don: Formerly useful staying hundler. No form over fences and could play a major role if can handles the switch to English fences. Acts on soft College Don: Formerly useful staying hundler. No form over fences Common Sound: Yet to build on seasonal debut 9 lengths 4th to Somerby at Hex-hamigan, good to soft) and retrurned to hundling latest outing. Plently to find Isle Of Rhum: Poor over hundles and yet to show any ability over fences, finishing a distant 5th of 11 to Forest Tible at Ayr (2m4 nov, soft) on latest start. Kobath: Winner on the Flat and over jumps in Poland, 50-1 chance when unseated rider at the 7th in race won by Chaming Girl on Musseburgh chase debut. Brave Man: Beaten a distance on only completed chase start. Little obvious chance MEDINGT. This expects to be set to the property of the provided of the provided of the provided chance MEDINGT. The provided by the provided of the pro VERDICT: This seems to boil down to a match between the experienced BARN-BURIGH BOY and Pornic, who is having his first taste of English tences. Tim Easter-by's consistent youngster ran his best race when beeten here list time and is probably the safer bet, although a strong market move for his former French-based nval could be significant in view of the recent revival in Micky Hammond's fortunes.

2.30 NORTHERN IMAGE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £1,700

1	25P4U4	LEAP IN THE DARK (17) (D) (Mrs D J Morres) Miss L Subbal 10 11 12
2		NOBLE NORMAN (21) (CD) (Mick Vernos) Mrs M Reveloy 8 II 5 P Noveo
3	44-240	COURT JOKER (3) (Hamish Alexander) H Alexander 7 11 3 Mr R Fornistal (5)
4	47/P5-	IN GOOD FAITH (F432) (P Cartmell) R Barr 7 tl 2 N Smith
5	10-000	MURITADI (20) (S B Clark) S Clark 6 11 7 Miss R Clark (5) B
6	036P56	EDSTONE (24) (Mrs M E Curts) J Curts 7 to 12 O MicPhall (5) B
7	0411/0	KARAYLAR (45) (D C Baley) W Storey 7 to 11
8		LATIN LEADER (37) (C) (D) (Raymond Anderson Green) C Parker 9 10 10 .D Parker B
9		OAKBURY (21) (Panther Racing Ltd) Mass L Siddal 7 to 7
10	3644PP	CHANSON D'AMOUR (20) (R F Stewart) M Hammond 5 10 4
11	PUOOPR	FAUSTNILUCE LADY (20) (NV J Smith) W Smith 10 10 3
2	D53020	
Ū	54506	TRAKELOR (10) (L A Morgan) R Holinshead 4 10 2
14	450600	ASTRALEON (14) (C) (Mrs D McCormack) N P McCormack 11 10 0 G F Ryen (3)
5	-33P6F	
16	/PO-20	
7	0-0004	PORTER PADDY (9) (Mrs Barbers Lungo) L Lungo 7 10 0
		- 17 declared -
Иπ	tuist True	handicao weight: Astraleon 9ct 13tb, Distinct & Nine Pipes 9st 10tb, Porter Paddy 9st 9tb.
		I stin Leader E. Court Johns 7.1 Lean In The Best 9.1 Octours Turbales 8.5 Nath

BETTING: 9-2 Latia Leader, 6-1 Court Joker, 7-1 Leep in The Dark, 8-1 Cekbury, Trakelor, 9-1 Noble Norman, 10-1 Distinct, Edstone, Peep O Day, 12-1 Chanson D'Amous, Nine Pipes, 14-1 others 1998 Water Font 6 10 5 R McGrath (3) evens fav (J J O'Neil) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

what it is like to have a com-

trial over nine furlongs at Nad

Al Sheba yesterday. And one of

them was too good for him.

"Worldly Manner beat Aljabr by

a length in 1.46.59, which is a

very fast and solid time," Simon

Crisford, the Godolphin racing

manager, reported. "They es-

tablished their authority over the

rest and drew clear, but World-

ly Manner had the superior fin-

ish over the last two furlongs

today. He was very impressive.

They both were. They're both

right on target for the Ken-

this was no gentle runaround

to get yawns out of the system.

The jockey arrangements on

the first two might tell you

that. Worldly Manner was part-

It ought to be stressed that

tucky Derby. They're going."

There were 10 runners in his

petitor finish in front of him.

Leap in The Daric Carlisle novice handicap winner last term from 25 higher. Show-ing little over hundles and tences this term until respectable 30 lengths 4th of 10 to Rolle

in Doncesser 2014 clearner suess. Mobile Norman; 68-1 novice C&D winner last term, but little show over fences/hundes lately and 33 lengths 10th of 19 to Western General here (2m seil hoap, soft) latest Court Johns: Fair 7 lengths 4th to Western General over 2m here of this mank 3 weeks ago, but well below best on Friday when 29 lengths last of 8 to 7he Great Flood at Falkerham (2m sell hose), good), Not a great batter In Good Faith: Carliele maiden winner two seasons ago. Probably best watched on

In Good Paller to Base Indiana. In the Control of t

lengths 5th to Moonshing Dancer at Catterick (2m3) set (cap, good) last month Kernylar: Lightly raced since last successful 3 seasons ago and showed nothing on Cathenok reappearance last month. Latin Leader: Capable of bold show on latest 17 lengths 4th of 16 to Exalted in Ayr non-seller (2m4f, soft) from 16 higher, but leaser surface would help his cause Dalidbury: Unpredictable customer with occasional good effort, but probably weight-ad up to best 66 higher after 24-length win over Ahncan Sun at Market Rasen (2m1f sell hoap, soft) in Dec. Well beaten 7th of 19 Western General here latest

Chansor D'Amour: Placed in early-season Kelso nowce but little sign of ability since Faustriluce Lady: Has shown nothing lately and refused over fences on latest start Peep O Day: Chance on 3 lengths 3rd to Strong John in Sedgefield 2m5/ sell hosp (good to soft) in Oct from 3lb higher. Should be sharper for recent Cattenck outing after lay-off but could find tro on the sharp side auter exploit our court man up on the steep side.

Traktetor: Yet to live up to promise of 8 lengths 4th to Untoxeter (2m nov sell, heavy) in Dec, though not disgraced behind Gunner Sid at Hereford on latest start and is an interesting prospect on first outing over more suitable longer mp. One to consider, Astrateom: Excellent change on Sedgefield 5 lengths 4th to Fatertakthar last July from

2st higher, but on the slide since. No improvement for new yard latest ct: Has shown the odd bit of form including 4 lengths 4th to Califourse Kelso (2m6f Incap, heavy) from 215 higher, but has been chasing unsuccess recently. Difficult to predict, but visored first time here. Acts on soft

Name Pipes: Chance on 7 lengths 2nd to Flahme's First at Cartmel (2m1 i hcap, good) from 5to lower, but tailed off next start and sidelined 6 months since Porter Peddy: Yet to show any sign of shifty and tailed off at Ayr latest VERDICT: Weekend rain could have put paid to the obvious chance of Latin Leader, leaving something of a lottery. Oeldoury would not be far away in the right sort of mood, but it could be worth taking a chance with TRAKELOR whose early form suggested she might blossom over a longer trip. She is a rare runner here for Reg Hollenshead and hinted at Hereford recently that she is in good heart.

3.00 NORTHUMBERLAND HUSSARS HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £3,500 added 3m Penalty Value £2,666

		•	•	•
	211-42	JOINT ACCOUNT (33) (D) (K Needham)	Mrs F Needham 9 11 13	Mrs F Needham (3)
	113-P1	BUCKSHEE (8) (D) (Mrs. D S C Goson) N	les D Glèsson B 11 10	. Mrs V Jackson (3)
		FISCAL POLICY (6) (D) (A R Trotter) A Tr		
		MAGSLAD (9) (David Alan Harrison) D Ala		
	15/0-P	MAJIC RAIN (6) (D) (D V Tate) Alian Dicks	ren 14 11 10	
	FFU24-	MINERS MELODY (295) (CD) (Chrs Gran	ELC Great 11 11 10	
	3-5323	MULLINGAR (8) (CD) (Mrs Sue Bell) Mrs	S Bell 10 11 10	
	OIPP/	MURTON HEIGHTS (765) (D) (N D Tutty)	Mrs K Turty 9 11 10	Mr N Turby
	04-5P4	SERGEANT MULLARKEY (8) (John Carl)	John Carr 17 17 10	Nor L McGreth (7) B
1		THANK U JRM (310) (D) (Mrs G Sunter) M		
	530-P2	STRATHMORE LODGE (10) (Miss Bevert	w Oliveri K Robson 10 11	5. Mr R Moroan (7)
			,,	

- 11 declared BETTING: 3-1 Buckshee, 7-2 Magsied, 4-1 John Account, 7-1 Strathman Lodge, 8-1 Mileurs Melod 10-1 Fiscal Policy, Thank U Jim, 12-1 others 998: Howaman 8 n 8 1 - 1 - 1 998: Howayman 8 11 8 Mr K Anderson (5) 5-4 (K Anderson) 4 ran

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Joint Account: Confirmed promise of Untractor novice hunter win last backend when 9 lengths 2nd to Coole Abbey at Musselburgh 2nn, good to firm) last month. Best form on fast ground and still prome to odd error but looks aure to be in the shake-up Bucksheer Smart point-to-pointer and 8 lengths whener from from Kimmhoyle at Tynedale 8 days ago, but lacks experience over these stiller fences. Fiscal Policy: Useful pointer. Will need to step up on last week's 26 lengths 4th of 14, to Tracia Dispute at Sedgefield (3m 31 hunter, sortly to be in the hunt Magsladt Form pack on ½ length 2nd to King Of Sparts at Unitoster (2m5) nov. good) last June. Encouraging comeback when besten 4 lengths by Pablicamore in point at Deliston (3m, good) 9 days ago and sure to be in the shake-up Majic Rakm: Useful performer in his prime, First outing for 16 months when pulled up at the 15th in Trade Dispute's race at Sedgefield (3m3) hunter ch. soft) last week Milners Methody: Smart form in this points and hunter chaeses for Tom Costello, First outing for new yard and probably worth a check in the market. Multilingan: Little show on only hunter-chase stant last term. Fair 3rd of 6 to Cool Yule at Corbridge 9 days ago, but looks up against it

Murton Heights: Useful porter two seasons ago, but adelined by many for 25 months Murron Heights: Users points two seasons ago, an accented or yeary for 22 months. From a strong point-to-pointing year and worth noting in the betting Sergeant Mulliankey: Modest forth in Ireland last term and 22 lengths 4th to Trade Dispate at Cattenck on hurter debut here Beaten in point since and plenty to find Thank-U-Jim: Stratford winner 2 seasons ago and successful in Cortindge point lest May, but best on fast surface and lacts a recent outing Strathmore Lodge: Carleie hurde winner last term. Encouraging length 2nd to Howey-man at Ayr (2mE, sort), on only second chase start 30 days ago and could be in pic-ture here with normal procoverpers.

ture here with roomal improvement VERDICT: It normally pays to give preference to hunter-chase form over point-to-point achievements, and JOINT ACCOUNT's good eitht at Mussethurgh suggests he will be difficult to beat if he can eliminate the jumping errors. Mageilad and Strath-more Lodge are the pick of the remainder.

3.30 JOHN SMITH'S NOVICE CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F)

L		E3,000 added 2m Penany Value £2,305
1	9CC+0	SPLENDID OCCASION (21) (Ms Ant Beit W Connegham 9 11 9
2		AFIRED (21) (J. Gedson) R Johnson 6 ft 5 K Johnson
3	0.003-	GEM OF HOLLY (380) (R S Wood) R Wood 6 Tt 4
4	R23446	MONES (6) (D) (C E Sherry) S Elison 8 11 3 A Johnson
5		OLLIES BOY (10) (Koneston Racing) J Barday 8 ft 3
6		DONINA'S DANCER (33) (Sieves Roper) Mrs A Nauchion 5 11 1
7	540	ROYAL CHIP (30) (Mrs. J. VI.L. Miligan) Miss. K. Miligan 7 ft 1
8	0000PB	OVER STATED (5) Fan Park : Park 9 to 22
9	560404	ONE STOP (6) (Michael Sterran) M. Barres & 128 S. Taylor
ŧ		PRO VERITATE (IT) U.C. Cark and Partners) C. Thomson 6 108 M. Foster
		- 10 declared -
_		

BETTING: 6-4 Monis, 5-2 One Stop, 5-1 Donna's Dencer, 7-1 Pro Vertista, 10-1 Office Boy, 20-1 Splendid Occasion, 25-1 Gem Cf Holly, 33-1 others 1998: Alphe Hidebway 5 1t 13 R Samtry 2-1 for (M W Easterby) 14 ran

Splendid Occasion: No form in bumpers and little encouragement in 38 lengths7th of 20 to Patras at Newcastle (2m maden, soft) on latest hurdes start. Aelined: No show when 13th of 20 to Patres at Newcastle (2m, soft) on hurdles debut Gem Of Holby: Little sign of ability in bumpers. Hurdles debut Monte: Deappoining 6th to Jarazo at Sedgefield less week following series of cred table efforts including 31/ lengths 3rd to Just Loze at Catterick (2m hcap, soft). Looks the one to best and Richard Johnson booking is a plus

Office Boy: Rating-class form so far and little obvious chantle on latest 17 lengths 5th of 7 to San Francisco at Ayr (2m nov heap, soft)

Domnat's Dancer: Improved for visor when beaten 10 lengths by Bit Offiage at Musseburgh (2m4 market, good to firm) in Dec, but disapporating at same course since Royal Chip: 200-1 chance when distant 13th of 20, well behind Chief Wardance at New-

royal Critic 2001 I charics when cassar is so to 20, was cernific the replaced at revisions castle (2m nov. good to soft) on first outing for two years.

Over Stated: Little sign of ability so far.

One Stop: Several far efforts in low-grade company and capable of taking a hand on it lengths 4th of 12 to Jaraab at Sedigefield (2m) fine on hoap, soft) last week.

Pro Verilate: Only plating class and planty to find on latest 40 lengths 10th of 15 to Radanpour at Catterick (2m self, good)

VERDICT: This is unlikely to take much winning, and a return to his best should get MIONIS norms. He had been consistent prior to his Sedgefield flop, and Richard Johnson looks the right jockey to put him in a winning frame of mind. The front-running One Stop is an automatic forecast choice.

4.00 GOSFORTH BUILDING AND DECORATING SERVICES HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 3m

1	/3-334	NY HOUSE (49) (0) (BF) (Mrs i, R Jouchn) J.J. (Theil ri 11 10,, R McGrath)
2	333253	BURNT IMP (USA) (37) (C) (N B Mason) G M Moore 9 11 8 Callagha
3		SOLSGIRTH (17) (Kinneston Farmers) J Barctay 8 1) 4
4	063-P1	NLJWAY (10) (D) (T A Barnes) M Barnes 9 ti 3S Taylo
6	61F405	CARLEY LAD (34) (CC) (N Mason) N Mason 11 Ti 2
6	112244	SNIPER (21) (Cayton Bigley Partnership) F Murtagh 7 to 10
7	-03205	HARDEN GLEN (21) (D) (M H Welton) Mrs J Storey 8 to 0B Store
		- 7 declared -
Min	mum wek	rhic 10st. True handiciso welghic Herden Glen 9st 11th.

BETTING: 3-1 Burnt Imp, 7-2 Nijesry, 4-1 Solegith, 9-2 by House, 6-1 Striper, 10-1 Carley Lad. 1998: Julie Box Billy 10 til 10 A Thornton 10-11 tav (Mrs J Brown) 3 ran

FORM GUIDE

hy House: Good 2nd in the Eider Chase here two seasons ago. Not the torce of old after long lay-off, but fair 4 lengths 3rd to Sitars Stalker at Kelso (3m11 hoap, heavy) in Jan from 12lb higher. Goes well fresh, though possibly needs farther these days Burnt imp: The one to beat on 2 lengths 2nd to Denbys Gorse over 2m4 free (heavy) off this mark in Jan, but has not shown much enthusiasm last two starts and was beaten 23 lengths when 3rd of 6 to Lagen Bridge at Ayr (2m4) hoap, soft) latest

Soleginth: In henoicopper's grip since and season had thick, but signs of return to form when beaten 11 lengths (eased) by Shanagarry at Kelso (3mt/f hoap, heavy) last time All to Switch the Miller of the Course when making all to beat Weaver George 1 langth at Ayr (2m4f heap, soft) last time. Every chance from 4b higher, but exits 4f on staffer course

carrier hosp, sorth last time. Every Chance from 46 higher, put exit at an sainer course here and prime to broken blood vessels.

Carriery Laid: Weitherby scorer from 2b lower in Dec, but out of sorts since Toncerster fait following month and possibly best shoulded for the moment. Soften since the total solution of the solution of the moment shiper: Dust Kelson privce scorer in early season. Looked weighted up to best when beaten 2 lengths by Bold Action at Kelso in Nor (3m1) hosp. Soon weakened when 20 lengths 4th of 6 to Tonis Tip over C&D early the month Harden Glen: Outside chance on 2% lengths 2nd to Supreme Soviet at Ayr (2m4) hosp, heavy) in Dec, but has run poorly last two starts and 3b out of handisap now

4.35 TOWN & COUNTRY BARS NOVICE HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £1,747

2954	PROVATE JET (17) (D) (P H Sanders) ! A Brown 10 ty 0	Mr G Markharo (?)
		_Mr P Johnson (3)
1-22FU	HOPRES DELIGHT (10) (D) (G H D Hopes) N Ewart 6 27	. Mr J Ewart (7)
40-132	MULLINGAR CON (8P) (C Grant) C Grant 11 12 7	
UC-OPP	WHAT THE HECK (22P) (Miss M Myco) Miss M Myco 7 12 7	Mr J P McNamere
10S-5P	YORNOANGEL (6) (I A Brown) I A Brown 10 12 7	Mr N Tutty
22-361	YOUNG STEVEN (22P) (R Plynn) Mrs J Hollands 8 12 7	. Miss 5 Forster (7)
	= 7 declared -	

FORM GUIDE

Grand As Owi: Lette form in early season novice hurdle and chase. Bealen 22 lends

5.05 ST MODWEN INTERMEDIATE NATIONAL HUNT FLAT

BETTING: 11-4 Industri's Eye, 3-1 Wynyard Damsel, 7-2 Head For The Hills, 13-2 Equinames Mis-ers, 8-1 Schway Breeze, 18-1 Commandant, 25-1 Red Striker, Well I Never, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT

SOUTHWELL

2.15 Moonlight Flit 2.45 Elite Hope 3.15 Heathyards Jake 3.45 Swift (nb) 4.15 KEEN HANDS (nap) 4.50 Ambitious

■ Course as 5m W of Newark. ADMISSION: Club £12; Tarter-salls £6 (QAP Club £4, under-165 tree). CAR PARK: Free. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 48-237 (2023s). S R Bowring 48-402 (119°s). J L Eyre 42-257 (141°s). R Hollinshead 38-432 (82°s). ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: J Weever 47-283 (163°s). J Quinn 37-531 (7°s). L Charmock 35-394 (89°s). G Duffield 34-255 (163°s). ■ FAVOURTIES: 555 wms in 1679 races (24°s). LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Linguistic Dancer (25°s). Bebe Coe-monaut (31°s) & Cosmic Altitude (45°s) have been sent 24°c miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Roale Jaques (215). Scold (24°s). Gold Chance (viscred, 45°s). My Motiner's Dream (viscred, 45°s).

2.15 TROON APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,500 filles & mares 1m

– 19 asparen – Minimum werght: 7st 10th True handicap weight: Sing For Me 7st 9th. SETTING: 15-5 Moonlight Filt, 4-1 River Ensign, 9-2 Kartinska, 5-1 guistic Dancar, 9-1 Over The Moon, 12-1 Rosle Jaques, 14-1 other

FORM VERDICT Les Eyre is having a quet time, but his MOONLIGHT FLIT has been running well in more competitive handcaps to suggest that is her day. River Enalgn and Linguistic Dancer are dangers. 2.45 CARNOUSTIE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) \$2,750 added 7f

FORM VERDICT

At his best, Alamein would be capable of repeating last year's success in this event, but he is not always reliable and the genune ELITE HOPE is preferred. She may be able to dominate from her sourable draw and will be difficult to peg back if she does. C-Harry looks best of the rest.

3.15 MUIRFIELD MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £3,750 added 3YO 1m

BETTING: 2-1 Heatinyards Jake, 5-2 Press Times, 100-30 Shanghi Crab, 8-1 Lovely Island, 10-1 Bebe Component, 12-1 Roomah Guay, 20 others FORM VERDICT

Michael Bell has done very well with his small string of AW runners this year and his well-bred SHANGHI CRAB will not have to be our of the ordinary to make a winning debut as those of his rivals with AW expenence are exposed as little better than

3.45 LADBROKE HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 added 1m 4f

FORM GUIDE

China Castie: 10-me course winner Back to best trip after creditable 21/-length 3rd of 7 to Yakareem at Whampton (tm1f), but stiff task 7th higher than best winning mark. Primary Colours: Up to best when 11/s length 3rd to China Castle at Wolverhampton (tm4f hcap) last month 2th lower and 11th of the worder length.

Castle at Wolverhampion (mrist hosp) last month 2b lower and 10b pull with winner here
Steampoller Stanity: Five-time winner on Lingfield all-weather
and 17 lengths tith to Supreme Sound there (mr2) on Seturday
on second run for new yard. Unknown quantity on this surface,
but on a fair mark and worth a check in the market
Bawaians Unbeater in two Proseand starts (at Wolverhampion)
last year. Well in on 4th to Present Arms at Aport in Oct from 4th
higher, but first outing for 21 weeks
Swift: Defice 9th rise to complete C&D double under Kleren
Fallon test week by length from Mr Fortywnia. 6th penalty now
State Approvati. Five-time winner in sellers and clamers here.
7th higher than best handcap win 2 seasons ago and bough task
Lucty Begonia: Three-time scorer up to mr3 here last year.
Capable of good run off this mark (8th higher than latest win)
but returning from 21-week lay-off.

but returning from 21-week lay-off Noulizert: Three-time scorer this winter, the latest from 5b lower at Lingfield, Looked in handicapper's grip when 8 lengths 3rd of 7 to Swift over C&D last week to 7 as shift over Cab Las week
VERDICT: Market moves for Bewelan or Lucky Begonia after
their long lay-offs would be significant, but they are more Resly sharpening up for the furt. The percentage call appears to
be PRIMARY COLDURS, who is only 4to higher for a 5-length
success over Swan Hunter at Wolverhampton in November and
proved her well-being with another good effort there last month.

- 12 deciared -BETTING: 5-2 Keen Handa, 100-30 Thomaby Girl, 11-2 Legal Venture, Lady Carteron, 7-1 Westrain, Dolly Day Drason, 12-1 Gold Chance, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT

4.50 ST ANDREWS HANDICAP (CLASS E)

FORM VERDICT Despite a 14b pull with Niffty Norman for a besting of 2 lengths here lest week. Samwar is too unreliable to bank on. Ambitious is not well drawn, but RIDE AWAKEHING showed the form to win titls when second here last month.

4.15 SANDWICH SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 3YO 5f

FIRST SHOW

VERDICT: key House should get the sound gatop he needs with Nijway taking the field along, but both he and Burnt Imp seem to have lost the winning habit. Neway's jumping and physical problems make him an unreliable proposition, and the safest bet could be SOLSGIRTH, who seemed to be recovering his form at Ketso and has more potential for improvement than most of his reads.

2P15-4	PROVATE JET (17) (D	(PH Sanders)! A Brown 10 13 0	Mr G Markharo (?)
5P/0P4	GRAND AS OWT (57	F) (Mrs M Jewer) R Johnson 9 12 7	_Mr P Johnson (3)
1-22FU	HOPIES DELIGHT (1	0) (D) (G H D Hopes) N Ewart 6 12 7	. Mr J Ewart (7)
40-132	MULLINGAR CON (8	PJC Granti C Grant 11 27	Mare S Great (7)
UC-OPP	WHAT THE HECK (2)	2P) (Miss M Nayco) Miss M Nayco 7 12 7	. Mr J P McNamera
10S-5P	YORNOANGEL (6) (1	A Brown) I A Brown 10 12 7	Mr N Turky
22-361	YOUNG STEVEN (22	P) (R Plynn) Mrs J Holands 8 12 7	Miss & Forster (7)
		- 7 declared -	
	N	under had die aller betreet and der aller bestellt bestel	Callets 20 4 Versen

1998 Coole Abbey 6 12 0 Mir L Temple (7) 4-6 tav (Mirs C Moore) 10 ran

Private Jet: South in this test year. Showed himself in good form when 17 tengths 4th of 19 to Hiltonstown Less at Doncaster(2m3f hunter, soft) and should not be tar away. Grand As Owit Little form in early season novice hurdle and chase. Beaten 22 lengths behind Major Tom in Ahwick 3m point-to-point igood to soft) on latest start in Jen Hoples Delight: Maden point-to-point winner tast term. 5%-1 chance when unsealed rider at the 8th in race won by Howayman on hunter-chase debut at Ayr (2m5), soft) Mutilinger Con: Early-season maden point winner Unlucky when beaten 7: length by Just Coming in restricted at Derwent (3m good to soft) taest. One to consider What The Heck: Poor completion record in points and novice chases this term Yomoungelt: Point-to-point winner but 66-1 chance and jumped badly before being pulled up on his hunter-chase debut at Sedgefield last week Young Steven: Joined present connections in mid-season after places over hurdles and fences for Sue Bradburne. Desponiting on Keiso hunter debut but its stimes winner of Friers Haugh point-to-point (2m good) from Astrac Trio since. Go close VERDICCT: Private, let triols the form and on his improved Connection from that the second consequence of the point-to-point (2m good) from Astrac Trio since. Go close

VERDICT: Private Jet looks the form pack on his improved Doncaster effort, but tiss could prove an anchor if conditions detanorate. A better bet could be YOUNG STEVEN, whose experience of regulation fences should stand him in good stead. He seemed to need every yard of 3m in his latest point, but previously showed plenty of speed at this trip over hurdes.

	TAIL (OBASS II) 22,000 added 2111 Clinity Value 21,711
21	HEAD FOR THE HILLS (44) (D) (D S Bowrng) P Beaumont 6 11 11 B Greiten (3)
3-61	WYNYARD DAMSEL (21) (CD) (DS Half) Mrs M Reveloy 6 11 6 Mr A Dempsey (3)
0-	BRONLEY MEL (364) (A Eubank) A Eubank 5 11 4 L Cooper (7)
	COMMANDANT (M Browne) J FitzGerald 6 ti 4 C McCorenack (3)
	GREY ABBEY (S Roper, K Roper, N Furness) F Murtagh 5 tl 4
	MICHAEL FINNEGAN (Mrs D J Morris) Miss L Scictal 6 11 4
	RED STRIKER (N Mason) N Mason 5 tl 4
0	WELL I NEVER (95) (Mrs A Thompson) J FitzGerald 5 ft 4 P Ryan (7)
12	RELAND'S EYE (20) (D) (Elam Connection) J Norton 4 11 3
	CLERGUISEN (R Shiels) R Shiels 6 10 13 S Mairose (7)
	EQUINAMES MISERE (Equiname Ltd) D Eddy 5 to 13 Mr R Forristel (5)
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ere, 8-1 Scheay Breeze, 16-1 Constandant, 25-1 Red Strike 1998: Double Chimes 4 10 2 S Taylor (3) 20-1 (M Dods) 21 ren

Though Ireland's Eye is the form pick on the immed evidence available, WYNYARD DAMSEL is narrowly preferred, having won decisively over C&D last time. This sister to Wynyard Knight showed improvement that day and further progress is likely. Equinames Misere is a newcomer who should be monitored in the betting.

Big build-up for Pearl

WILLIE MULLINS yesterday nessy [Leopardstown] before outlined a busier Cheltenham Cheltenham. I wouldn't say he build-up next season for his didn't stay, he just didn't quite beaten Gold Cup favourite, fire. Any day you have a seven-Florida Pearl, who was having year-old finish third in the Gold just his third outing of the sea- Cup you have got to be happy." son when third to See More Windsor's meeting on Thurs-Business on Thursday. "Florida Pearl will probably caster, was due to launch the

start a bit earlier and have Flat season on turf for the first more races," Muliins said. "He time, is in doubt due to heavy will probably have a race at rain and is subject to a 3pm in-Christmas and then the Hen- spection tomorrow.

Southwell 3.45 C H L S T China Caute 21 74 38 58 58 68 Primary Colours 3-1 TI-4 3-1 5-2 TI-4 41 41 51 92 92 6-1 7-1 8-1 8-1 8-1 Steamroller Stan. 6-1 12-1 9-1 9-1 9-1 Lucky Begania 14-1 11-1 9-1 14-1 12-1 State Approval 14-1 14-1 14-1 12-1 12-1 Noukari 14-1 16-1 16-1 16-1 12-1

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Warrington Wolves Castleford Tigers THEY HAVE shortened the name on the back of Toa Kohehve's jersey to just plain Love: he showed little affection or

generosity of spirit towards Castleford yesterday. Kohe-Love scored two tries in an outstanding centre display against the Castleford side who never got over the loss of their stand-off, Danny Orr, to-

BY DAVE HADFIELD

wards the end of the first half. Orr twisted knee ligaments in a tackle and must be considered doubtful for the Challenge Cup semi-final against the London Broncos on Saturday. Although he had no com-plaints about that particular incident, his coach, Stuart Raper, said afterwards: "That was the plan from the start. They were going to try to take him out of the game and they succeeded. It's something the game is going to have to take a look at."

In fact, the seeds of Castleford's downfall were already sown long before Orr, Man of the Match, in all three rounds of the cup so far, was carried off on a stretcher. They were losing far too much ball and, from one such mistake by Nathan Sykes, Kohe-Love turned the gift of possession into Warrington's first try.

The home side were not much more secure and, after John Roper had lost the ball through an ill-advised pass to Mark Forster, Cas hit back with Brad Davis and Adrian Vowles sending Richard Gay over in the corner for a try that Orr converted splendidly. Warrington responded rapidly through Ian Knott and Lee Briers' dropped goal put them three

points ahead at the break. For all its technical imperfections, it was a gripping match and the lead changed hands again early in the second half, Kohe-Love putting the one real blemish on his game by failing to take Aaron Raper's



Love is all Warrington need

Castleford's prop forward Dean Sampson runs into trouble against Warrington yesterday

Although John Wells was taken into touch, the ball was kept alive for Mike Eagar to touch down against his old club. Warrington had some intense pressure to survive after that, but then Kohe-Love took a pass from Briers, to shimmy

coach, Darryl Van de Velve. "You can't coach that; he's just

Briers scored himself from Danny Farrar's miss-out pass and when he kicked the goal Warrington were clearly in a winning position. But what wing.

"He's on fire," said his Castleford lacked in precision, they almost made up for in tenacity. Davis darted through for a try that made it uncomfortably close in the last few minutes and it could have been closer still if Jason Flowers had not put down a pass on the right

They had not done enough to win, however, and the addition of Dean Sampson and Raper to their injury list promises a busy weekend on the treatment table before they face the Broncos.

We're still not playing as

Velve said, "but after last week's hammering at Bradford. this was welcome relief."

Dispirited Gregory considers resignation

ANDY GREGORY, the Salford BY DAVE HADFIELD coach, has indicated that he his side's 22-10 defeat at Wakenewcomers and presumed

whipping boys. "I'm going to think about it over the next couple of days," said Gregory, who is Super very good but the players aren't 3-0 through Steve Prescott's

may resign this week following League's longest-serving coach. "I don't think I've ever

gets the blame. Once the players cross that white line there's nothing I can do. The spirit is standard.

Bradford Bulls were made to McAvoy's try. struggle for the two points at "It's always the coach that heavy rain brought the sides together Hull almost pulled off an and it took two penalties by old upset against the Challenge

penalty and drop goal but Brad- victory against Halifax when ford edged ahead with Nathan Dave Boughton's late touch-

Hull. While a strong wind and Wigan in their opening Super boy Steve McNamara to ensure

down was disallowed by referee Hull, humiliated 58-6 by Robert Connolly. That left Hali-17-14 winners.

The London Broncos' New Cup semi-finalists. They led the Bulls went home happy. Zealand Test prop. Grant Challenge Cup 3-0 through Steve Prescott's Huddersfield were denied a Young, has broken his leg in two against Castleford.

League game, did not give up own ruled out, running out ley Stadium on Saturday. London now have no specialist props available for Saturday's Zealand Test prop, Grant Challenge Cup semi-final

Crutchley joins the 200 club Sharks have title in sight

the Premier League title on Saturday with a last-minute goal from Ben Sharpe, yesterday came from behind four times to draw 5-5 with Guildford in a thrilling contest.

first of his three goals, became the second player after Ian Jennings to take reach 200 League goals. Crutchley took his season's total to 35 and is odds-on to be top scorer for the fourth successive season.

Southgate, with goals from Todd Williams and Kwandane Browne, beat Hounslow 2-0 to ensure their runners-up finish with Hounslow having to play as South Africa's Wayne Bent-

UTTOXETER

1.45: 1. SMARTY (N Williamson) 5-2 iar; 2. Christialia 10-1; 3. Section Seven 13-2 9 ran. 6, 7. (Mrs.) Pitman). Tota: £300; £180, £300; £200, DP; £2280, CSP: £2421. Tricast

2.50: 1. WISLEY WONDER (Cliewslyn) 5-1;

2. Belamet 10-1; 3. Green Crussder 9-2; 6 ran. 5-2 law Scoring Padignes (Mt) 1/4, 2/4. IN Twiston-Davies). Tota: 25:30; £2:30, £2:50. DF: 218.70. CSF: 643:65.

325: 1. JUNGLI (J.A. McCurity) 5-4 tw. 2. Polar Flight 3-1; 3. Parcy Parkeeper 2-1. 6 ran. 18, 9. (P. Webber). Tota: £230; £150.

4.00: 1. IRBEE (J Tizzent) 8-11 fev. 2. Kings

Cherry 7-1; 3. Bastyline 5-1.5 ran. 1%, dist. (P. Nichols). Totae: £180; £120, £220. DF: £130, CSF: £604.

4.35: 1. EXPLAIN THIS (R Durwoody) 5-6 far, 2. Smoking Gun 40-1; 3. Haresa Scaren 9-4 7 ran. 11, 5. (C Mann) Tota: \$180; \$150, \$820. DF; \$3150. CSF; \$3012.

Placepot: £5270, Quadpot: £20.70.

Place 6: £26934. Place 5: £8834.

BY BILL COLWILL

Surbiton in a home and away play-off to maintain their Premier status. East Grinstead Bobby Crutchley, with the and Brooklands are relegated. Reading were yesterday beaten 3-2 at home by Bournville. Beeston, who routed East Grinstead 6-1 on Saturday, yesterday came from behind to beat Canterbury 5-2 to keep

alive their drive for the play-offs. Surbiton, with a 7-1 victory against Firebrands, took the Division One title in a game which they dominated as soon

ley gave them the lead at a penalty corner in the 20th minute. Their goal machine then clicked into gear in spite of a string of saves from Firebrands' keeper Stuart Blake, with Greg Nicol maintaining his average of three goals a game.

At the bottom of the Division Hull are relegated to the Regional League, while Sheffield have to go into a playoff with the winners of the Regional Leagues.

In the mid-table battle for Division One places next season while Havant were beaten 2-1 by Hampstead and Westminster and will next season

line up in Division Two.

MANCHESTER GIANTS lost control of the Budweiser League race at the weekend and now two wins for the Sharks will take the title to Sheffield for the first time since 1995, when their coach Chris Finch was a player.

Manchester's 111-109 double over-time defeat against Sheffield on Friday night was damaging enough, but it was the London Towers' Danny Lewis who all but killed the Giants' dream on Saturday.

Lewis scored the game's last nine points, including the match winning three point play, to give London the 66-64 win, which means Manchester need

BASKETBALL By RICHARD TAYLOR

Sheffield to lose to Newcastle Eagles next Saturday or at Chester Jets on Sunday. If Sheffield win those, they

can go to Manchester for their final game on Good Friday in the knowledge that even defeat will not cost them the title. "When we lost at Greater

London Leopards two weeks ago we decided to keep our heads down, ignore everything around us and just set out to win every game," Finch said. "Now we've got a week to con-

But the Sharks suffered a scare on Saturday night when inspirational captain Todd Cauthorn limped out of their 82-70 win at Leicester City Riders in the first quarter with a badly bruised knee. Cauthorn steered Sheffield through the overtime win against Giants, and Finch said: "In over five years in this country that's the best game I've seen, let alone been involved

In the United States, Dennis Rodman rejoined the LA Lakers yesterday but was unwilling to say what prompted him to centrate on Newcastle. If we leave the team on 13 March.

off-stump and was bowled

HAD SOUTH AFRICA had not

be an afternoon session. Stead then offered determined resistance. Astle is a robust and fluent stroke-maker but with littie sense of discretion. Flashing off-side strokes saw him twice dropped at cover by Herschelle

forward chances. Then he drove at Jacques Kallis who dropped two return catches in the same over, one, down by his ankles, was hard, the other, waist-high, easy. But, on a worn pitch, New Zealand were never likely to hold out.

CRICKET

BY HENRY BLOFELD in Wellington

South Africa 498-8 dec

fall in the afternoon session, when he play defensively at Steve Elworthy and was lbw. Elworthy bowled well, finding movement off the seam and using his height to bang the ball in and get lift from the pitch.

Astle reached his 50 when he drove Kallis behind square for four and Chris Harris settled in at the other end. They added 52 before Astle pushed at Elworthy and was bowled off the pad when the ball nipped into him.

when the ball nipped into him.

Harris produced the best stroke of the day when he pulled a short one from Elworthy to the long mid-wicket boundary for a spectacular six, Adam Parore was then brilliantly caught at silly point by a diving Jonty 153-4. Harts 22-66-0. Aste 16-6-0. silly point by a diving Jonty Rhodes off the glove as he

It was 196 when the lefthanded Harris thrust forward Stead was the only wicket to to Adams down the line of the

round his legs when the ball turned into him.

went back overnight and as a result bad light brought the players in soon after the new ball had been taken by Shann Pollock near the end.

Rourth day, New Zealand won tass NEW ZEALAND - Phys Lealags 222 (G R Stead 68, C Z Harris 68; S M Pollock

7-199. To bet: S B Douil, S B O'Connor

ACTION REPLAY Bravery of Farr goes unrewarded

baser to suffer disappointment after a conroversial verdict in a world heavyweight talle fight in New York. Sixty-two years ago Tommy Farr of Wales came close to beating the legendary Joc Louis in a contest which went the full 15 rounds. This was Trevor Wignall's report, which led the front page of The Daily Express

TOMMY FARR came so near

31 **AUGUST** 1937

BY TREVOR WIGNALL

to winning the heavyweight championship of the world last night that thousands in America today think the unanmous verdict of the referee and two judges that Joe Louis was entitled to the decision on

ooints was mistaken. The contest proved once again that expert and public pimon is practically valueless n predicting the result of a modern, big heavyweight ight. The utter gameness of Farr's display caused a scene at the end without counterpart. When Louis went to his the estimate anomal mone arranged in ringing in his ears, but Farr marched away surrounded by howling and delighted ad-

of a conquering hero. All the scorecards I have examined vary in the most remarkable fashion. Quite a number made out Farr to be the victor, and even those that favoured Louis gave him the conquest by only the narrowest margin.

mirers, much in the manner

The three cards of most importance, which therefore discounted all others, were those of the referee and judges. Arthur Donovan, the referee, awarded 13 rounds to Louis, one to Farr, and called the other even. Charles Lynch, a judge, gave eight to Louis, five to Farr and made two even. William McPartland, the other judge, voted nine rounds to

Louis and six to Farr. My own personal view was that Louis did just about enough to deserve the verdict. My card gave him seven rounds, with five for Farr and three even. I felt that Louis won through the superiority of his left hand. It was entirely responsible for the mashed and gory state of Farr's face in every round after the bered that at the end of the seventh round Farr appeared to be nearly out on his feet. and that in the 13th he was very badly staggered by a left.

The seventh round was Farr's poorest. As the end of the third minute was approaching, he was caught on the ropes with two left hooks and a following right, and the impression of myself and others in a favoured position to judge was that the

Farr was unquestionably in a bad way as he waddled actually carried the fight to on a quiet walk. his highly apprehensive eighth. His stamina was

was, but final proof of his astonishing endurance was supplied in the last round. Tremendously eager to get

back into action, Farr swept out of his corner 10 seconds before he need have done, and in this 15th session he produced a grandstand finish that brought most of the spectators to their feet with delirious yells of delight.

Farr was stronger and better in this last round than he was in the first, and a thrill such as I have rarely experienced arrived when, in his excitement, he crabbed the arm of the referee and raised it ut the air. This gesture was hailed as evidence that Donovan had done the grabbing and that he was signalling the birth of a new champion.

There were groans when Donovan pulled himself away from Farr, but I rarely heard louder booing than that which greeted the delayed voting of the three officials. This, however, should not be misconstrued.

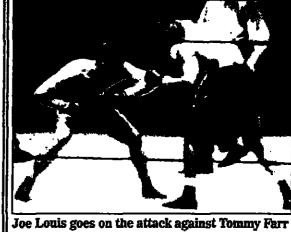
Racial prejudices had much to do with the unruly demonstration. Two-thirds of the gathering were against the coloured champion, and their great anxiety was to witness the triumph of one of their own white race. In addition to this, the natural attachment to the underdog that characterises all sports crowds completely took possession of the spectators.

Louis was strangely languid and slow and disappointing. His display was the worst I have seen from him, but the failure to use his right hand, which has brought him so many victories, was partly explained stated that he had badly damaged it in the fourth round.

Louis displayed no ring intelligence whatsoever. From beginning to end, he plodded the same orthodox and tame course, but what particularly alarmed those who are anxious about his future was that he was more apprehensive and nervous than any champion should be.

I did not realise quite how cool and confident Farr can be ringing of the bell probably until he came and sat within saved him from a knock-out. a yard of my place in the press box 20 minutes before be was due in the ring. It seemed to his corner, but he made to me he was no more ruffled such a swift recovery that he than if he had been setting out

Farr did great credit to his coloured opponent in the country, but I strongly hold the opinion that he would amazing. His cheeks just now be the world's champibelow the eyes were cut in the on if he could only punch with third round, and from then on genuine force. He will long be he bled continuously. His bat-remembered as one of the tered face was made to look gamest losers this or any much worse than it really other country has ever seen



Sjerven is the hero

GRANT SJERVEN produced a brave performance yesterday to spark Sheffield Steelers' 4-0 victory over Nottingham Panthers in the Challenge Cup final in front of a sell-out 9,200 crowd at the Sheffield Arena, thus helping to end two years without a trophy.

The former Manchester Storm goaltender endured a Panthers at bay and, at the torrid time in the first few other end, victory was wrapped months of the season, becoming the target of the fans' frustration, but he bounced back od and an easier effort from yesterday, winning the man-of- Ken Priestlay.

ICE HOCKEY

the-match award for an inspirational shut-out. Steelers had effectively

killed off Nottingham's challenge with two goals from brothers Teeder and John Wynne inside the opening four minutes. Sjerven then kept the up by a superb shot from Ed Courtenay in the second peri-

Going: Good to Soft 205: 1. HIGH GAME (P Hide) 2-9 tav; 2. Histoir's Deligit 40-1; 3. Wild Blade 20-1 8 ran, 2, 1%, (G. Latoure), Tote: £120; £110, \$480. DF: £680. CSF: £1342. 940 DF: SEGO CSF; ST442 2.40; 1. SATCOTINO (S Kely) 9-4 fax; 2. 19er Pawe 9-2; 3. Stratton Flyer 40-1 14 fax, Nk, 1/k, (k Burle) Totes \$2.80; \$150, \$200, \$30.20 DF: \$28.00 CSF; \$10.77. Theast

3.10: 1. BOULEVARD BAY (G Brades) 9-1: 2. Juzzy Refrain 33-1; 3. Northern Saddier, 7-1, 10 ran. 100-30 fav Red Bean (8th), 2, 4 (Mrs P Robeson), Tota: £1800; £450, £840, £180. DF: £288.60. CSP: £203.78. Theast: Going: Good to Soft 1.18: 1. JUST JASHINE (F Greene) 11-2 lav. 2. Pent'in Choles 50-1; 3. Jessofie 49-1 14; 4m. 4, 8, (Bathop): Thes: 5500; 5220, EM30, 5500, DP: £186.20, CSF: £216.57. Tricast:

52,00178 3.40: 1, PEALINGS (Michael Broman) 8-1; 2. Warm Spall 11-4 fav; 3. Equity's Darling 9-2 9 ran, 11/s, 11/4. (G Hubbard), Totac \$1000; 5250, £170, £180, DF; £2890, CSF; £2984 12:50, 2:50; 12:50; 13:50; 13:50; 13:50; 13:50; 14:50; 14:50; 15:50; 16:

115149. 2.20: 1. YOUNG KENNY (8 Powel) 5-2 fav; 2. Cell it A Day 12-1; 3. Hollybank Buok (1)-1 14 rat. 8; 1½. (7 Beaumont) folia: CSBO; 4200, C280, C320 DT: 22540, CSF; C2857. 767565: C28570. Trilecta: ES2870. NFt: Miss. Jacknot: Not won. Pool of £11,901,56 carried

> Place 6: £284.99. Place 5: £219.86. NEWCASTLE Going: Soft (Good to Soft in places) 1.50: 1. CANTEX CAPERS (R Wainton) 1.50: 1. CANTEX CAPERS (R Wainton) 14-1; 2 High Pyreness 11-1; 3. Reinus 2-7 faz 22 ren. 1/s, nk. (Mrs S Smith). Teles 2018; 22-90, 53:30, 51:10. DF: 547:10. CSF:

Placepot: 532900, Quadpot: 528200.

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SATURDAY'S RACING RESULTS 1.55; 1. TO-DAY TO-DAY (Mr 8 Gbson) 5-1; 2. Lenscar Lane 20-1; 3. Lord Pat 8-1 13 ran. 8-4 fev Curtainsatchopwell (8th), 1%, 3. (L.Lungo), Tota: 2500; £160, £530, £220, DF: £85.20, CSF: £97.53, Triceac £740.57. 4.25: 1. FLAT TOP (C McCormack) 5-2; 2. Jyonjem Johnny 9-2; 3. Flat Rostiny 11-4 5 ram, 9-4 tay Major 8 Bl. 18, dat. (M W Easthy 11-4 6rby). Tota: 5340; SMQ, 5200. DF: 5740. CSF: 57248.

Place 6: \$4896. Place 5: \$4362.

MARKET RASEN

Going: Good to Soft 2.10: 1. IBN MASIRAH (Mr.A Demosey) 2-1 few; 2. Field Plantist 8-1; 3. Fortune Hop-per 16-1.7 ran. 1/4, 7. (Mrs M Reveloy). Total: £3.20; £1.90, £3.00. DF: £13.50. CSF: £15.31. 2.45: 1. JESSICA ONE (M H Naughon) 11-2; 2. Golden Thunderbolt 8-1; 3. African Sun 25-1 12 ran. 15-8 tev Springfield Scally, NK, 1 (Mrs M Reveley), Total 25-50; \$170, \$250, 5850, DF: £4830, CSF: £4480, Tricast £94930, NR; ∄ Don.

19450. Not. 1 State
3.15: 1. WHITEY (Mr C Multail) 33-1; 2. Dry
Hill Lad 9-2; 3. Dande Dove 66-1. 9 zm.
7-4 fav Caract Toop (pu), Mr, 7 (Ms C Blington), Toke: 224-0; E25-0; £1-40; £1380. DF:
£1680. CSF: £15639. STEIRC CS*: E10593 3.50: 1. JAZZMAN (E Husband) 11-10 jt før; 2. Maderolet Sam 10-1; 3. Alfrey Pilot 25-1 4 ran. 11-10 jt lav My Cheeky Man. 4. das. (G McCourt) Toter 5200. DF: \$480. CSF. \$283.

McCourt, 16the 121.0 Dr. 1460 CSF: 1263 4.20: 1. LOBUCHE (W Worfsington) B-1; 2. Stage Whitsper 3-1 far; 3. Salvage 20-1 10 ratt. 1½, shi-hd. (M Chepman). Tota: \$210; \$190, \$180, \$250, DF: \$140, CSF: \$2833 4.50: 1. DRAGONS BAY (Mr A Dempsey) 10-11 faz; 2. Brandsinberry 5-1; 3. Down Tha Yard 12-1.5 rint. 8, 6. (Mrs M Revaley), Tota: £170; £120, £230. DF: £380. CSF: £588. 517(; 172(1230 DF: 1300 CSF: 1398 5,26; 1, OBELISK (R Guest) 9-2; 2, Soript For Life 9-1; 3, Soour De Sentier 11-8 tex 14 ran. 5, 1 %. (W Heigh). Total: 5800; 5190, 5320, 5130. DF: 22730. CSF: £4340. Placedot: £338.70. Quadrot: £5940.

Astle holds up S Africa

dropped an embarrassing collection of catches at the Basin Reserve yesterday, the third Test would already have been over. As it is, with three wickets left, New Zealand are 59 runs

behind going into the final day. A hostile weather forecast persuaded Hansie Cronje to declare South Africa's innings at their overnight 498 for 8, 276 runs ahead. When New Zealand lost their first three second innings wickets for 35 in 12 overs. it did not look as if there would

Nathan Astle and Gary Gibbs and both were straight-

pushed at Paul Adams.

The clocks in New Zealand

7-440, 8-499. Bearing: Doull 24-4-77-0; O'Connor 24 4-89-1; Nash 25-7-76-2; Vectorl 54-16-153-4, Harris 22-0-66-0; Astle 16-8-21-1

Tetal (For 7)217 Fall: 1-8, 2-35, 3-35, 4-100, 5-152, 6-196,

Andre Agassi's response was to vow that he would never play in the Davis Cup again, having already declared himself unavailable for the forthcoming match in Birmingham, along with Pete Sampras. "They just fired George Fareed." Agassi said, breaking the news to the American media, "that's the last straw for me."

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Fareed had been the team's doctor for eight years, succeeding his late father, Omar, whose respected courtside manner dated back to the old professional tour, where his medical expertise enabled the likes of Pancho Gonzales and Jack Kramer to play matches night after night. "Good old Omar, God rest his

soul, was there for the team on every level," Agassi said. "George came in and did the exact same thing. The players loved him. He goes to the wall for you during Davis Cup weeks, and away from Davis Cup weeks. [The USTA's decision] is just another example of how players aren't consulted about anything that happens. I didn't hear about it till last week. I'm done with Davis

executive director, said Agassi's fired was "grossly overstated", our team. explaining that Fareed was a casualty of the new regulations and standards the USTA is about to implement regarding medical staff. The requireinclude certificates in specific areas; completion of fellowship training; involvement on a daily basis with the treatment of professional athletes; and

BY JOHN ROBERTS in Key Biscayne, Florida

significant experience in deal-

ing with professional tennis Agassi said that the USTA president, Judy Levering, had called his office to tell him about the Fareed decision. "She said that they have some concerns about him. That was it.

Some legalities. Find out from them. They'll explain it better, Ferman said: "Dr Fareed's service level was top notch, but his credentials do not match up to our requirements". He added that a new team doctor is due

to be appointed this week. Sampras, who has said he is missing the Davis Cup to concentrate on personal goals, said he was "shocked" to hear that Fareed had lost his job. "I've known George for many years. He's one of the nicest people I've met in tennis. It's not really my business who should be the doctor. I give my input. I like George. He seemed very knowledgeable."

Jim Courier, one of the players who is expected to fill the void Sampras and Agassi have left in the squad that will travel to Birmingham, said: "I don't know enough about [the situation] at the moment to make a comment, other than to say I think we all loved Doc Fareed and we'll certainly miss him dearly. I'll want to know why Rick Ferman, the USTA's [this has happened] and try to understand it, because he's statement that the doctor was been such an integral part of

> The former world No 1, while agreeing that the timing of the doctor's dismissal was unfortunate, did not react with Agassi's vehemence regarding the Davis Cup. "I wouldn't say that [I won't play], if that's the case [with Andre]," Courier said. "I don't want to down-play the fact of how much I appreciate everything that Doc Fareed

does for our team. I'm disappointed that he's not going to be with us from here on in.

"I don't understand exactly the whole scenario yet. The continuity is a very nice part of a team. Although our team changes personnel player-wise, we've had the same medical staff, trainer, massage therapist and captain now for many years. To disrupt that is not the most helpful, certainly."

The 28-year-old Courier, ranked No 52 in the world, had just stepped off the Stadium Court at the Lipton Championships after a second round defeat by Sampras, 6-3, 7-6, but was in an optimistic mood. "I like the way I'm hitting the ball," he said. "I like the way I'm competing. It's like Brad [Stine], my coach, said to me after the match, 'Keep playing like that, you're going to win a lot of matches and do well'."

Agassi, also aged 28 but ranked No 9, was unable to suppress the promising Slovak. Dominik Hrbaty, and slipped out in the second round with the deflation of two consecutive double-faults.

Tom Gullikson, the United States Davis Cup captain, intends to speak with Agassi in the hope that he will change his mind about playing in the Davis Cup in the future. "Never is a strong word," Gullikson said. "Maybe, hopefully, it's a reaction to the loss [to Hrbaty]." Boris Becker's bade farewell

to the Lipton singles, having found Marat Safin too strong for him in the second round, the 19-year-old Russian winning, 7-5, 6-0. "He has very raw power," Becker said. "If he's able to use it in a proper way, he's a future No 1. I haven't seen anybody hitting that hard from both wings for a long time."

Greg Rusedski advanced to the last 16 yesterday with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Germany's Hendrik Deekmann. He now plays Australia's Pat Rafter or Nicolas Kiefer, of Germany.



Martina Hingis plays a backhand return during her 6-1, 6-1 third-round defeat of Amy Frazier at the Lipton Championships yesterday



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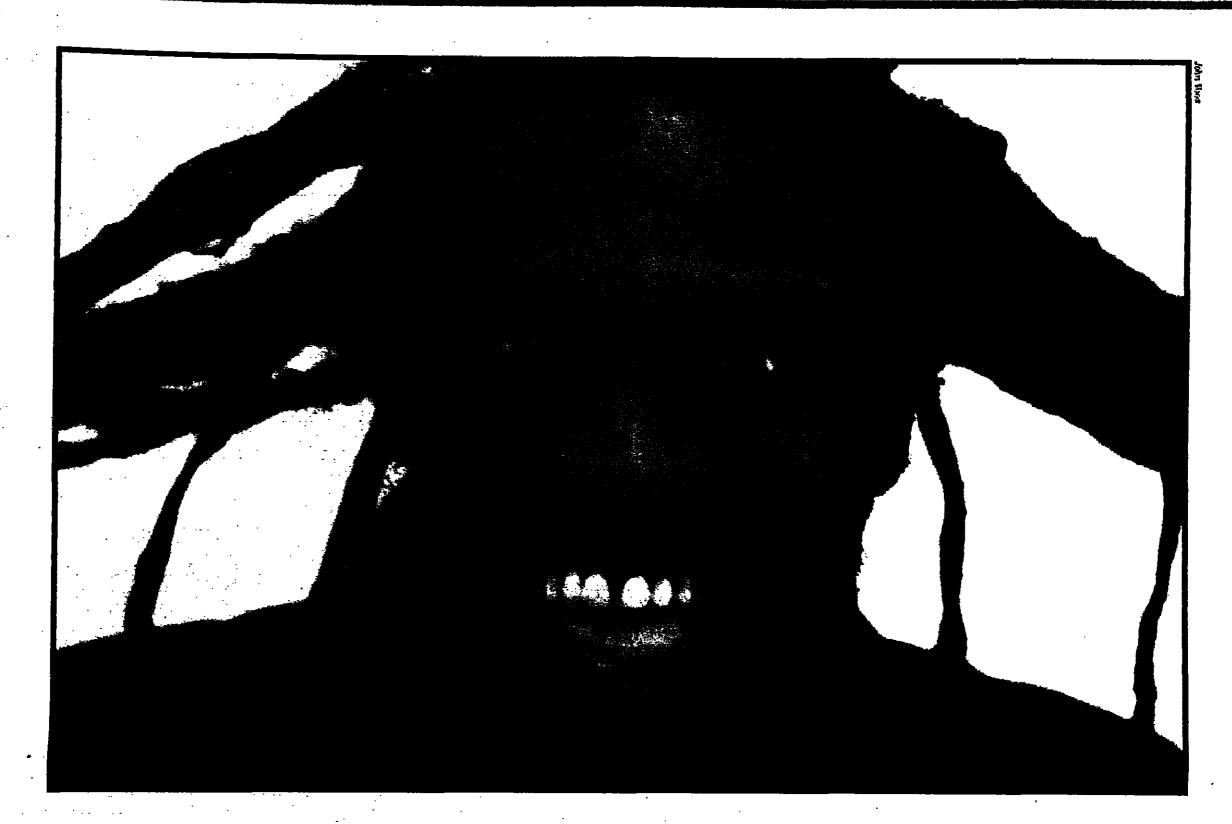
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Benjamin Zep since he's jailbird turned

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS •



Poetry in motion

Benjamin Zephaniah is fed up with people labelling him. That's understandable, since he's a 40-year-old Jamaican-Brummie-London dyslexic rasta burglar jailbird turned dub-reggae poet activist. But what if the label was Poet Laureate

though rather less glamorous. landscape of urban grot, thrift shops and miserable eating houses until, some where in the 700s, you find yourself in Newham. Newham is known for two things: being the home of West Ham football club and being a dangerous place for racial attacks a few years ago, especially by the Combat 18 boot-boys.

In the Newham Parents' Centre Bookshop -

perhaps the most unlikely shop to find in these tough surroundings - Benjamin Zephaniah is waiting. A tail and striking fellow with an unreconstructed Bear-mingham accent, he is sprouting hair like an old leather sofa. Curly sideburns wave around his cheeks. A black tangle sits on his chin like volcanic lichen. His matted dreadlocks dangle below his waist. "As a matter of fact, I'm not very hairy at all," he says. "Twe never grown a beard. Never had a shave in me life. My hair's never been cut since I was 12. You'd have to make love with me to find out, but I have got the most silky smooth skin."

I'll take your word for it. He lives across the road from the bookshop and likes the cultural mix of the area. "There's a new East End around here," he says, "a lot of Caribbean and African and Asian people, but also a lot of the old white community who have extended families the same way that we always had when I was growing up. You can see them in the afternoons, exchanging babies and looking after each other's children... He always brings journalists here. He likes getting them out of central London and showing them his backyard - how much better it is than the centre, more racially integrated, with better schools and a real community spirit.

When I did my first British tour in four years last automn, we finished in London and I hired Stratford town hall, because I wanted to draw. little hard to fathom.

arking Road in east London people here and say, 'it can be done'. We had four stretches through three postal or five hundred people at the town hall, a lot of districts. It goes on for miles. It local talent. Doreen Lawrence was on stage, just seems longer than Sunset Strip, before the Stephen Lawrence enquiry. We invited refugees along and made it a political event." And Mile after mile, there unrolls a when Radio 4's Down Your Way team asked him to nominate a favourite place: "Usually they want to go to the Lake District or somewhere, but I said, This is a place I love; why don't you come and do a programme about Newham and the

people that make if tick?"" Zephaniah is big on community. While the word has temporarily fallen into disrepute (because of its invariable companion words "care in the"), he's keen to give to communal experience a voice it won't otherwise have. He is a poet of the backyard. He... but here I must be cautious, because he is fed up with people calling him names. He is tired of taxonomies. He is exhausted with definitions. But I suppose when you're a 40-year-old Jamaican-Brummie London

sent to an approved school in Shropshire ("which wasn't a school at all. More a dating agency. No, I'm joking") and did a car-mechanics course. But he was angry, the National Front were active in Birmingham, and he turned to crime: "I used to think that anybody who had a car was the enemy. Rich people were the enemy of poor people. It took a while to realise it's not as simple as that." A spell of burglaries landed him in Winson Green nick. After prison he became a disc-jockey in Handsworth, salting his

patter with comic stories of British life. In the late Seventies he was one of the "ranter poets" who accompanied the punk explosion, people such as John Cooper Clarke, Jools, Linton Kwesi Johnson and Attila the Stockbroker, who would come on in the middle of a Clash concert and declaim simple, snarly bursts of agitprop and emotional disarray. "We all felt

BY JOHN WALSH

dyslexic Rasta burglar jailbird turned dubreggae poet activist and Laureate nominee, you can see how people might wish to label you.
"It's so frustratin," he says. "I get called a dub

poet, and the image is of an angry young guy who performs with a certain rhythm. Well yeah, that's the tradition I came out of, but now I write love poems. My anthology, the Bloomsbury Book of Love Poetry, is out in September And people are saying. What you writing love poetry for?"

Typecasting is a bitch, we agree. So is the way fashions overtake you. "We used to call ourselves rap poets before the whole rap music thing took off. People expect me to come on talking in an American accent about homies, and saying 'Get down' and grabbing at my crotch. And I don't his work and about his public role. But his standing among British literary celebrities is a

the same," he says, "working-class British kids who felt that nobody was speaking for us. There were writers doing all this highbrow stuff, but no one represented how we thought. I remember, if anything happened where I grew up in Birmingham, they'd go and get the local vicar at the black church and say, 'Community leader the Reverend So-and-so says', and we'd say, 'Who?'"

Zephaniah didn't learn to read and write until he was 20, and is still severely dyslexic - when he performed at a children's gig in Battersea this weekend, as part of The Word festival, rather than read from his work he got some of the audience to act out the poems for him. He affects puzzlement as to what things mean ("It's a mnemonic - is that the right word?" "My ocurre? What's do that "Indeed no. Zephaniah is serious about an oeupre?"). He's been called "a walking rhyming dictionary", but didn't realise such things existed until the other day. He is not disposed to hobnob with his peers. "One reason I

He left school at 13, expelled for being a rebel live round here is that it's away from other and "a born failure". A bad-boy teenager, he was he says. "I don't like hanging out wi poets." His verse is simple, immediate standable bar-room stuff, often funny a about white attitudes to black culture itically naïve in that ghastly right-on S manner, full of "government spies", arm and iniquitous "politician men". Ze should, by rights, have retired from the years ago, like Attila and Cooper Clarke his name keeps coming up. The electionew Oxford Professor of Poetry? Vote for miah. Nominations for Ted Hughes's repla as Poet Laureate? How about Zepha South Bank programme on performance

Step right up, Benjamin.
Why does it happen? Is it a middle-class to get a semi-literate black ex-conv dreadlocks to storm the ivory towers nassus? Or is it genuine respect?

It's quite possibly the latter Zephar been an ambassador of world poet South Africa to Palestine, from Argenting dinavia. He is an inveterate traveller tor of schools and prisons and youth el is Mr Global Cool Guy, insisting on the of the oral tradition in poetry, and the mental rhythms that are common to ev

"I remember being at a conference Africa, when this woman got up and st perform a poem, not in Zulu or any recognised. It was an old patois thing. S What you do, we've been doing in Sout for years, but we've lost touch with it, of the big struggle with apartheid. This it used to be like.' What was amazing the rhythm was the same as a classic di though it was thousands of years old."

Zephaniah's conversation is full meetings, such impromptu exchanges are always coming up to him. They trea their personal poet. They harangue him f insufficiently radical. "I get old black w

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Features

Sir: I disagree with Alastair Forsyth (Letters, 18 March) that the International Court would probably find in favour of the Argentine claim to the Falkland Islands. On all the normal grounds for claiming sovereignty, Britain has the stronger claim.

The crucial point in modern international law is that, since 1833. Britain has enjoyed effective, continuous and peaceful possession, occupation and administration of the Falkland Islands – peaceful, that is, except for Galtieri's folly in 1982.

As for the primacy of territorial integrity mentioned by in Ambassador Pfirter's letter, can he seriously claim that a group of islands separated from the mainland by over 200 miles of open Atlantic Ocean is an "integral" part of Argentina?

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Surely the only sensible, humane solution to this sovereignty issue as we approach the new millennium is to lef the people most involved - the Falkland Islanders - decide for themselves Sir REX HUNT Chairman, the Falkland Islands

Sir. The letter of the Ambassador of Argentina (18 March) reflects a serious historical amnesia

Sunningdale, Berkshire

Association

The "colonial situation" did not begin in 1832 - when the British took over the Falkland Islands - but in 1516 when the Spanish began colonising Argentina. Modern "South Americans" are not the native population, which by the 19th century had been liquidated. so any talk of "self-determination ... and continued exclusion of the original population" seems rather anachronistic.

The true dimensions of "the problem" are five, not two, centuries of colonialism, none of which conforms to any principles the UN may now hold. Overall, the best solution seems to be the one suggested by Prince Charles: that two democracies have the maturity to recognise that the past is a different country and be prepared to make a better future by living together in peace. DOMINIC KIRKHAM Manchester

Molecular memory

Sir: Lionel Milgrom's account of Jacques Benveniste's research ("The memory of molecules", 19 March) failed to make it clear that the experiment discussed, where a biological signal is recorded. transmitted over the Internet, and applied to water elsewhere to regenerate the biological effects of the source, is not just an idea but rather an experiment that has already been carried out, with impressive results (see Benveniste's web pages at www.digibio.com).

We invited him to describe his work at our weekly colloquium to learn more about the research, which seems both scientifically interesting and potentially of considerable practical importance.

While the results claimed may seem surprising, the Cavendish Laboratory has been host to many surprising discoveries during the 125 years of its existence, and the controversial nature of the claims was not seen as good cause to follow the herd and veto his making a presentation.

In regard to the Nature condemnation of 1988, my conclusion at that time was that its authors had made an insufficient case for its headline claim "Highdilution experiments a delusion". and nothing since has led me to see the frequent denunciations of the work as anything other than the hysteria that frequently accompanies claims that challenge the orthodox point of view.

The manifestations of scientific prejudice, well documented by Michel Schiff in the book The Memory of Water. can be extraordinary; another reason why we felt it important to invite Dr Benveniste to talk at our

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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otherwise have chosen to do). The

donor agrees to forgo some of their

underlying principle is that the

gross income for the benefit of

others, and thus pays tax only on

of eligibility for such tax relief is

therefore whether the donor

obtains any resulting personal

benefit which they would not

charities, churches and even

subscriptions of all kinds, and

payments such as school fees.

Sir: You are quite right to identify

otherwise have received.

tax relief. Membership

what remains. An appropriate test

On this basis genuine donations

to, for example, developing-world

political parties should qualify for

HMS Invincible No1: A Harrier pilot leaves his aircraft after helping to enforce the southern no-fly zone over Iraq

Neville Elder

the case could otherwise be

brought forward, for example,

under a no win, no fee agreement,

and without any recognition that

not everyone can have a solicitor's

office on the doorstep, any more

than a hospital or a supermarket.

I want to maximise access to

within reasonable limits on the

taxpayer's pocket. Those ends are

criticisms were about the drafting

of the clause, and the way it was

proposed ahead of more sensible

alternatives, not the sentiments

resources available from the

defective clauses in Bills. My

not achieved by including

colloquium and be able to present his results to scientists in an uncensored form. I am grateful to The Independent for following on with its article. Professor BRIAN JOSEPHSON Cavendish Laboratory Department of Physics

Chinese and Welsh

University of Cambridge

Sir: Yasmin Alibhai-Brown (Comment, 18 March) writes of her distaste for devolution. She can accept that "Blacks and Asians" have a British identity but not a Welsh or a Scottish identity.

As an inhabitant of Wales I can reassure her that I have been able to be Welsh as well as enjoying my German, Polish and English heritage, whilst my children are able to be Welsh as well as retaining their Chinese heritage and language through the Chinese

community in Wales. Multiculturalism is a fact of life in Wales. Sadly, what also is a fact of life is unemployment, povertystricken hill farmers, dilapidated schools, cash-strapped hospitals and social inequality. These can be addressed more directly from Cardiff than from Westminster.

A loathing of racism is not a reason to avoid greater democratisation but rather a reason to embrace it. Yasmin Alibhai-Brown is doing the Black and Asian communities in Wales and Scotland a disservice by not positively encouraging them to vote and stand for election. HANNA CHEUNG Caernarfon, North Wales

Bad example

Sir: The chairman of the Advisory Committee on Releases into the Environment says: "The Americans are not stupid, and we should ... examine why there is such a different attitude to GMOs on their side of the Atlantic." ("Tesco isolated over policy on GM foods", 18 March.)

He is referring I assume, to the same Americans who contribute massively to global warming, refuse to take part in a biotechnology convention and

refuse to segregate GMOs or label foods containing GMOs, who have introduced laws to muzzle the press and prevent US "food scare" reports and who have recently permitted licences for the felling of their last old-growth forests. Individually the Americans are

not stupid, but collectively they do not know what they are eating, their politicians are controlled by big business, and their environmental record is dubious. They are no example for us to LESLEYELLIS

Alton, Hampshire Charity and tax

Sir. You suggest that the Government should decide for us which organisations are sufficiently "good" to be allowed to

benefit from tax-breaks on donations by individuals (leading article, 19 March). However, tax relief on charitable donations is given to individuals

(who are thereby enabled to

contribute more than they might

Sir: We played a version of the

county high school in the 1970s

"fainting game" in which an

Eton pupil has died at my

remember rightly, the game

was superseded by a passion

for seances and ouija boards.

Neither was ever detected by

Sir: May I remind you that Sir

his knighthood for being a "pop

Cliff Richard did not receive

March). He received it solely

for the vast amount of work he

star" (leading article, 19

(letter, 18 March). If I

ESTELLE WOLFERS

the authorities.

tax relief for charities as a flawed concept but quite wrong in your solution to the problem. The way forward is not to discriminate between good charities and bad charities but to deny tax relief to them all. Tax relief for charities is just another way for the rich to transfer the burden of taxation to the poor. The less tax they pay the more we have to pay.

should not

Edinburgh

STAN ZACHARY

ROGER CHAPMAN Keighley, West Yorkshire .

IN BRIEF

does for charity. Since when

sanctimonious? He has said

many times that if the major

stars when they tour gave the

charity it would hardly hurt

their bank balances. What a

Sir: Dr Chris Dawson points

out fletter, 19 March) that

Jacques Santer in fact said

have less greed.

Mrs J SADLER

Liverpool

proceeds of just one concert to

good start to the millennium to

has speaking the truth become

Access to justice

Sir: Ashley Holmes' article "Access to justice is not just a Access to Justice Bill out of context.

imposed on the Bill was Bill, when the Government had already proposed its own amendments which clearly set out the separate purposes of the Community Legal Service and the Criminal Defence Service. The new clause creates confusion by trying to cover two distinct schemes with a single set of obiectives.

Bizarrely, the clause seeks only to prevent discrimination against the disabled, whose interests are already protected by the Disability Discrimination Act 1995: it does not mention other vulnerable

Also, some parts of the new clause are unrealistic. They

that he considered himself "entièrement blanchi" (completely cleared), rather than "whiter than white". While not wishing to question Dr Dawson's translation, I feel it is worth mentioning that in financial contexts blanchi means "laundered" - or perhaps, in this case, "taken to the cleaners". NIGEL GREENWOOD

Sir: On the question of naming a millennium child, may I suggest – Bug? J GREGORY Beverley, Humberside

London N22

gimmick" (4 March) shows the dangers of taking parliamentary debate on the new clause in the

The new "principles" clause unnecessary: It was forced into the

suggest that the taxpaver should meet any legal costs that a person wants to incur but cannot afford: without any test of merits, or any consideration of the ways in which Heart dilemmas Sir: Your article about the

Lord IRVINE OF LAIRG

underlying it.

Lord Chancellor

House of Lords

dilemmas facing Chris and Daphne Ford when they discovered that their baby son had been buried without his heart (Review, 17 March) highlights issues which the NHS and healthcare professionals must take very seriously.

Clarity in giving information and integrity in seeking consent are essential in maintaining the confidence of patients and parents.

Practices which were previously taken for granted are no longer acceptable. It was the determined arguments of Daphne and Chris Ford in 1992 that led us to change our policies at Great Ormond Street Hospital then, and similar policies are now in place at other paediatric centres.

But there may be an argument for a legislative framework or central guidance, and we have made it clear that we wish to contribute to that debate. ROBERT CREIGHTON Chief Executive Great Ormand Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust London WC1

Apologise to Sudan

Sir. In view of the fact that there is to be a debate in the House of Commons next Wednesday, there is now an opportunity for MPs to make sure that the Government is open with us concerning the attack on the pharmaceutical factory in

the Sudan by US missiles.

No chemicals of any kind which
can be linked to nerve gas production have been found by new analyses of the soil around the factory. The factory was incapable of producing any such chemicals. There are no links between the factory and any terrorist activities.

Every time questions are asked in Parliament on these points the Prime Minister has replied evasively by reference to the early remarks of US officials, which everyone I know believes to have been mistaken. Now he is aware of the facts, can not the Prime Minister apologise and attempt to persuade the US government to do the same: Professor RJP WILLIAMS FRS Inorganic Chemistry Laboratory University of Oxford

Peaceful bedtime

Sir. I did a parenting course. Systematic Training for Effective Parenting, about a year ago. I too used to have a stressful time putting my children to bed ("But I'm not tired", 15 March). The facilitator encouraged me to try a new approach, which I was sceptical about initially.

I asked my children what time they would like to go to bed. They suggested one o'clock in the morning. The understanding was that they would put themselves to bed whenever they wished, but that they must get up in the morning by a specified time.

On the first night they went to bed ridiculously late but, as agreed, were up at 7am.

My very tired 10-year-old son said: "I think in future I will go to bed at 9.30 on schooldays, and allow myself a late night on Fridays and Saturdays." He had fixed a bedtime only half an hour later than the bedtime I had stressed myself out to achieve. His elder sister (then aged 12) followed suit. REBECCA NG London W6

justice and to provide high-quality services as widely as possible. Vicar's income

Sir: The pastoral reorganisation in the Gaulby group of parishes ("Vicar loses fight to keep his flock", 18 March) will not affect the Rev Ashley Cheesman's personal income at all. The quote from Roger Lyons, general secretary of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union that "his new parish will not provide sufficient income for a man with a wife and two children" is misleading.

The income of Anglican clergy is a stipend. Fees for baptisms, weddings and funerals are either assigned direct to the diocese, or a record is kept of such fees to report to the diocese and the stipend is adjusted accordingly through the Church Commissioners. This avoids the situation where some clergy would be paid more than others because they were in an area that has a high number of weddings, for example.

Emotional quotes such as using "an administrative measure effectively to starve him out", are inaccurate and unfair. SUE KYRIAKOU Bishop's Press Officer Diocese of Leicester Burton on Trent, Staffordshire

Double-banked

Sir. The irritation inflicted on A JEdwards by others' use of the phrase "PIN number" is nothing compared with my being made to write a monthly cheque to TSB Bank plc. I think it must be a ploy to get customers to change to direct ANDREW TEAL

Ripponden, West Yorkshire

We have ways of making sure you respect English law

HOW MUCH do you know about the law? The answer, of course, is not that much. Nobody knows much about the law. That's the whole point of the law – to be so baffling and mysterious that not even top judges and lawyers know much about it. If small gatherings of law lords can't agree on anything, what chance have we got?

So, starting today, I am going to bring you a series of tests on the state of English law. This is not to teach you about the law, but to point out how very little you do know and to increase your respect for the majesty and un-knowability of the law. The first set of test questions is all about animals and the law, and is based on three recent court cases. Here we go.

1) Mr Threlfall of Willesden had a

long-running dispute with his neighbour, Mr Jacobs. The cause of the dispute is immaterial; what matters is the mode of revenge chosen by Mr Jacobs. Knowing that Mr Threlfall disliked dogs, and was even quite scared of the bigger kinds, Mr Jacobs proceeded on a campaign of capturing a series of stray dogs, then putting collars on them and releasing them again. These collars all had one thing in common; they bore a metal tag on which was written a made-up

name for the dog and Mr Threlfall's very real name and address. The result was that whenever one of these stray dogs was caught and brought in, it was returned to Mr Threlfall. The constant stream of un-

known dogs being brought to his door was more than he could

stand, and he might well have

gone mad had he not suspected that Mr Jacobs was involved in this stray dog campaign.

He soon found a local pet shop which had sold an unexpectedly high quantity of dog collars re-

"Do you know who bought them?" he asked. "Yes, a Mr Threlfall," said the

pet shop man. "I know that was his name, because he also had a large quantity of tags engraved with his name and address." What did this Mr Threlfall

look like?" asked Mr Threlfall. The pet shop man gave an accurate description of Mr Jacobs. and soon Mr Threlfall had instructed his solicitor to lay charges against Mr Jacobs. But with which of the following could Mr Jacobs be charged? a) Falsely imprisoning a stray

MILES **KINGTON** The whole point of the

law is to be so baffling and mysterious that no one knows much about it

b) Cruelty to neighbours c) Conspiring to give false information to a registered animal

d) Falsely uttering another

man's address as his own e) Giving a dog a bad name

2. Mr Ieuan Williams, a smalltime Welsh burglar, was caught in his house with the proceeds of a burglary he had committed the night before, including a rare parrot. The parrot was produced in court at Cardiff as evidence, and the owner identified the parrot as his, based on the fact that it could utter several identifiable phrases, including "Rhodri Morgan was cheated!"

The defence argued in favour of Mr Williams, the accused burglar, that all evidence in the court had to be given in either Welsh or English, on request, and they therefore demanded that the parrot also parade his vocabulary in Welsh. As the parrot was unable to do this, they claimed a mistrial.

Can an animal be required to give his evidence in Welsh? And can he be sued by Tony Blair for uttering malicious and libellous comments on the election of a Welsh boss figure?

3. Mr Whistler, a Cumberland farmer, was out with his gun one day looking for rabbits when he spotted a fox and shot it. Unfortunately, it was a tame fox belonging to a Mr Kidwelly, who was out for a walk with it; the fox had been trained not to attack sheep or poultry, and to walk off the lead. Mr Kidwelly was determined to sue Mr Whistler for shooting his pet. His solicitor, however, was of the opinion that he would never persuade the court that anyone should assume that a fox was a pet.

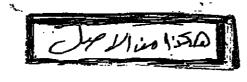
"I have an alternative line of thought," he told his client. "I

have inspected the site of the unfortunate shooting and I have noticed that although Mr Whistler was standing on his own land at the time, and the fox was also on his land, he in fact shot across territory belonging to someone else. If we can prove that the bullet passed through air space not belonging to him. I think we can get him on all sorts of gun infringements."

Was there any truth in this? Or was it just the usual sort of hot air talked by lawyers when they're up against it?

I'd like to give you the correct answers to these three. Unfortunately, there is no such thing as a "correct" answer in English law. That's what English law is all about!

If you're beginning to get the idea, we'll have another test paper soon.



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Independent 75 March 1999

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Enter

European Union shines a small roundabout around which it light of hope: Britain's insistence on the appointment of an squabble about which direction outside fraudbuster. Making to take (Andrew Rownsley) the independent watchdog a must for the next President of the Commission is a great

move forward. News of the World IT HAS been said, in as many languages as there are in the European Union, that Europe

FROM THE shambles of the that simple. Europe is at a will spin while the passengers The Observer

THE ABRUPT departure of 20 commissioners has been a source of joy for many Eurosceptics, but should not delude the Continent's overburdened taxpayers into believing that a of an electorate's trust beis at a crossroads. If only it were clean up its act.

The Sunday newspapers reflect on

and avarice combine with unaccountable power, the vitiation one lot of disgraced commis- Sunday Business

When the vices of arrogance signers with another bunch of hopefuls will not change that. The critical issue is not who runs the commission, but how

failure to sort out the corruption of several of its Commissioners is undeniably a blot on its escutcheon. But the Parliament exists and we should exploit not excoriate it, in order to serve ourselves better, and to bring more transparency and accountability to the EU. The Independent on Sunday

THE COMMISSION has become not so much the servant of the rebate. (Charles Powell) European Union as its master. The Sunday Telegroph

THE EUROPEAN Parliament's The events of last week offer a golden opportunity to rebalance Europe's institutions.

If Tony Blair wants to persuade voters that joining the single currency is safe, surely simultaneous action to rem in the Commission's free ranging powers to interfere in other aspects of our lives is a sensible course. It will be a lonely battle, but so was Mrs Thatcher's in winning our budget "Knowing Eric Morecambe, he will say, 'You're late again'."

Des O'Connor, entertainer. on the death of the comedian Ernic Wise

QUOTE OF THE DAY

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"I look upon all the world as my parish" John Wesley, founder of methodism

*THE INDEPENDENT

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The time has come to show that Nato's threats aren't empty

AFTER A year of warnings from the British and the Americans, it looks as though Nato is finally going to use military force in Kosovo. The anti-war voices raised against the bombing of Baghdad will be horrified, questioning the purpose of air strikes and repeating the conventional wisdom that wars cannot be won from the air. Not that they will be wrong to do so. This is a solemn moment, and it is right that, before the lives of Nato forces are risked, we should hesitate.

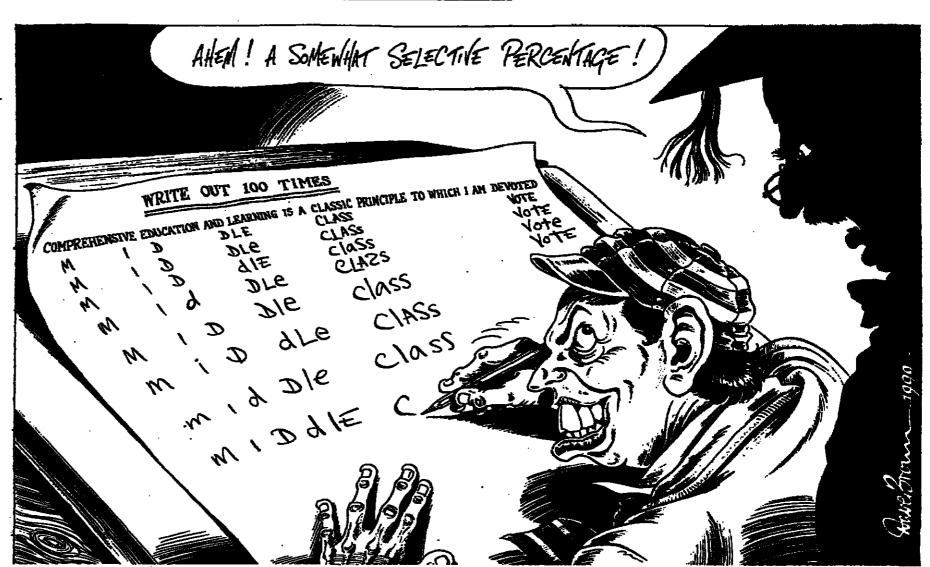
It is alarming that the withdrawal of the Western observers from Kosovo has left the Albanian-speaking majority in the Serbian province at the mercy of the Serbian tanks. It is likely that air strikes on Serbian military targets would kill civilians. And it is certain that, if the West wanted to keep Serbian troops out of Kosovo, which is the only guarantee of the security and freedom of the Kosovar people, it cannot be done from the air. If Slobodan Milosevic, the Serb leader, were to choose to defy the West in Kosovo, the only way to stop him would be to wage a long land war against one of the most aggressive and highly motivated armies in Europe, which is a prospect few in the West have even begun to contemplate.

But what is the alternative? It is obvious that we should not have started from here. It was obvious that the lesson of Bosnia should have been learnt long ago: that the only way to face down the bullies of Belgrade is by the threat of force - and that the threat must be genuine. If Milosevic had been forced to this point a year ago, a series of massacres of Albanian-speaking Kosovars would not have happened, and the Kosovo Liberation Army would not have gained its hold or carried out so many reprisals (and the Serb minority in Kosovo has rights, too).

There are those who would argue that the use of force is better never than late. But they are the people who would have left the Kosovars to their fate, which would have been "ethnic cleansing" and migration. Their argument is similar to those who say that the sanction Saddam Hussein should face for trying to acquire weapons of mass destruction is a telling-off.

In the end, the use of force is justified and necessary. Robin Cook and Tony Blair have since last March told Milosevic that if he does not end the repression in Kosovo, he will face the consequences.

Each time, the Serbs did enough to buy a bit more time, but then wrote their insincerity in the blood of Kosovar farmers. Last July, Mr Cook became annoyed with his Shadow, Michael Howard, for suggesting that Nato's warnings were "empty threats". Now, at last, the time has come to show that they are not empty. It is a grim duty but, as in Iraq, it must be done.



All children need help, not just the most able

THE LATEST scheme from the Downing Street Sunday Headlines Unit is a worthy proposal for the brightest tenth of comprehensive school pupils to be selected for extra tuition in their best subjects. But even from a government whose policy-making processes are exceptionally driven by the need for favourable press coverage in mid-market newspapers, this is thin stuff. You can just imagine Mr and Mrs Range-Rover deciding to send their offspring, who they fondly believe are Oxbridge-bound, to the local state school because, though most of the lessons are

rubbish, they will be studying rocket science on Saturdays. The plan may help a few pupils, who are either highly motivated themselves or whose parents push them, to

education and its rewards. Many middle-class parents, especially in London, already buy private tuition to top up the education provided by even relatively good schools. But it should not be necessary to add time to an already bulging timetable. This scheme merely tries to make up for the fact that far too much of children's time at school is wasted - a lot of it in trying to follow an over-prescriptive national curriculum.

This Government is, of course, doing much else in its busy flurry of ideas for raising standards. Many of its policies, for taking over management of failing schools and bringing in private companies, are bold, and a welcome advance on the sterility of the previous administration. But it could go even further. In attacking the central problem today's announcement is intended to solve, namely the relative failure of some state schools in urban areas, the Government has not yet matched the laudable urgency of its rhetoric with the zealotry of its actions. In a system that recognise that extra tuition is the passport to higher allows parental choice, schools with a poor reputation will

quickly spin down a negative spiral. That spiral needs to be disrupted at the earliest stage by decisive intervention - or closure. Today's scheme will make a small contribution to targeting resources on the schools that need it most, but a bigger overhaul is needed - and one directed at more than just the ablest 10 per cent.

Hell's bells

THE REVEREND Keith Sinclair's decision to take on the combined forces of Mammon, football and BSkyB is praiseworthy indeed. Concerned that the switching of Aston Villa's game with Chelsea might force his flock to choose between God and goals, he organised a protest toll of church bells. Aston Villa pleaded that they were bound by the FA Premiership agreement with Sky. Rev Sinclair may not stand a chance against the powers arrayed against him on this earth, but at least Aston Villa lost.

Mr Portillo should remember his rallying call: 'Who dares, wins'

THERE IS no evidence that William
Hague is a vindictive man. But if he be the Tory candidate at Newark – were, there would be a sweet means of revenge now open for his humiliation at the hands of Michael Portillo in the former secretary of state for defence's highly watchable and in-structive television series last year

The series included a memorable sequence in which Mr Portillo, his handsome features etched against a darkening Yorkshire skyline, strode across the moors with the Tory leader trotting behind him, clad in a deeply unsuitable cagoule borrowed, it now turns out, from one of Mr Portillo's camera crew. It was, all the parties now insist, a complete accident. But it rather neatly illustrated the Hague image problem which Mr Portillo, who has turned out to be a dauntingly talented television presenter, discussed so freely on air with the focus group commissioned by the makers of the programme.

The stratagem is this. Mr Hague could ask Mr Portillo, in the wider interests of the party, to put his name forward as a potential candidate in the Newark by-election. He would have to do it privately, of course. Unlike Labour, the Tories still respect the autonomy of local associations and it is not for the leader to dictate whom they should or should not choose as ably more unpredictable than it might

parliamentary candidates. But, in the now routine fashion of modern politicians, he could discreetly "let it be known" to a couple of newspapers that this was his desire. putting Mr Portillo, who by all accounts is not interested in trying for the seat, firmly on the spot.

after a freakily long interval of well over a year in which there have been no by-elections at all – should not, of course, distract from the reasons, none of them favourable to the Government, why it is taking place.

First, Fiona Jones, the sitting Labour MP was found guilty by her peers of what looks like more than a mere technical infringement of election law. Second, however, the application of archaic laws to electoral techniques - including mass telephone canvassing and the use of information technology - that were unknown when the laws were framed, have underlined the need for an Electoral Commission of the sort that has long been promoted by Dr David Butler. Finally, Ms Jones's conviction has exposed the fact that the deeply divided Newark Labour Party is, to put it mildly in a bit of a mess.

But that's just the point. Although it would require a swing to the Tories of 2.9 per cent to win the seat - at a time when the national opinion polls show Labour at comfortably above the national vote share with which it won its historic landslide on 1 May 1997 the evident disarray of the Labour

otherwise be. This is especially the case since the seat was regarded as a pretty safe Tory one before the general election, and since there are bound to be fears about the scale of Labour turnout in the by-election. What's more, the Labour candidate, almost whoever he



DONALD MACINTYRE

Sooner or later even his many admirers are going to start wondering when he is going to get his hands dirty

or she turns out to be, is bound to suffer from a backlash against the party's role in the events that caused the byelection to happen in the first place. The Tories have more than a sporting chance of winning. That's not all. Hague could, if he

chose, present it to Mr Portillo as his

solemn duty to his party to make every effort to get back into Parliament at the earliest possible opportunity. The shrinking of the Tory party in the last election means that the Shadow Cabinet, let alone the tier of politicians just below it, is not so overburdened with talent and charisma that it can afford to do without one of the party's undoubted stars. Who better, for example, to sharpen the Tory attack on the Government by replacing Michael Howard as Shadow

decision to bow out of politics? Newark and lost? Roy Jenkins did no That is not, it seems, how Mr Portillo sees it. Mr Portillo is having rather a nice time at the moment:

speaking writing thinking appearing on radio and television, rotating sel-ectively and graciously around the Conservative dinner circuit. By his sheer, if conveniently distant, presence he invites favourable comparison with Mr Hague. Portillo is a man who knows that he can have the pick of safe seats in the run-up to the next general election; he is in no hurry at all to get back. He will not, by all accounts, go for a by-election unless the seat is rock-solid Conservative. Nor does this apparently mean that he intends to remain in Enfield Southgate, where he was cruelly defeated in 1997 by a tactical squeeze on the Liberal Democrats - even though Enfield is one of those seats that the Tories will have to win back if it is to have any serious chance of recovery. And why

should he be in a hurry? Although he would deny it vigorously, by staying out of Parliament until the next general election he can be sure of not being part of the prob-lem if or when the Tories go down to their second defeat, but, rather, a potential solution. It says something about the state of modern politics that, a few ritual taunts from Labour apart, most people accept this situation, which has everything to do with personal ambition and little to do with improving the fortunes of his party, without batting an eyelid.

And yet is it even as clear as the sophisticates claim, that Mr Portillo would be "finished" if he went for

damage to himself by failing, in the admittedly rather different circumstances of the Warrington by-election in 1981, to win. Nor is the argument that he might not be able to hang on to the seat in the general election quite

the clincher it is made out to be. By standing in and winning the byelection he would incur a massive debt from the Conservative Party, becoming, the day after, an instant star. To have gambled on Newark would have been a gutsy, risky decision, for which he would have to be rewarded, if necessary, by another seat. Wasn't it Portillo who said in the ill-judged party conference speech which marred an otherwise distinguished term as secretary of state for defence: "Who

In this respect Portillo is an odd mixture: incautious enough to make that speech, fatally comparing the Conservative Party to the SAS, or to install telephones in a safe house in premature anticipation of a leadership election in 1995; too cautious to stand in that election or to risk a parliamentary defeat now. Maybe Newark is not the right choice for such a controversial figure, especially if John Stevens's pro-European break-

other by-elections. If Portillo is too controversial to win a closely fought by-election, then it raises questions about his ability to win a general election as party leader. Sooner or later even some of his many admirers among Tory MPs are going to start wondering when he is prepared to get his hands dirty.

away Tories run. But there will be

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foreign secretary after Mr Howard's

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD recent events in Brussels

chastened Brussels will rush to comes inevitable. Replacing it is run.

PANDORA

THE SUNDAY Times is the Sunday papers? No, The Sunday Times is last Sunday's papers. "Eye surgery lifts Salman Rushdie's brooding looks" screeched the rag's page one. above-the-fold story this week. Pandoraphiles experiencing dėja vu are right on the money - you read the story here 10 days ago. It's a sign of how grim life is becoming at Wapping; no wonder the Sunday Times's editor. John Witherow has been reduced to public admissions that his rag "isn't

making waves any more".

For the Wapping barn, the only way is down, as management there becomes increasingly adrift from life as the rest of us understand it. Example: The Times's editor Peter Stothard deigned to give an enterprising Cambridge undergrad, Sam Coates, a valuable tip for readers of the collegiate magazine Varsity: "Well I wouldn't bother with work experience: I'd spend the summer reading Ovid." Welcome to the 19th century, guys.

IT ISN'T just Auntie and Ikea who prefer cleanshaven staff: the parcel delivery outfit UPS forbids beards, too.

TRUDIE STYLER'S husband Sting took a break from recording his new album in Florence to join a stellar on-stage cast performing the best bits of the Bard at the Globe theatre this weekend. Ethan Hawke left Uma Thurman and their baby to fly in from New York and join the iconic Vanessa Redgrave, the omnipresent Richard E Grant, the deadpan comedian Jack Dee and the lachrymose folkie James Taylor to tread the boards before a full house. But it was the Lock Stock and One Smoking Crisp Packet old boys who stole the show with their Romeo and Juliet fight scene. As Tybalt (the former Bio *Issue* seller Jason

Stathara, boyfriend of the Big Bre kfast babe Kelly Brock) died, he whispered the word "Bastard". "He's all emotional." explained

Jones, (pictured) to the crowd. Diamond fridges! STYLER, A selfconfessed bossyboots and producer of the Lock, Stock film, organised the Globe gig to raise

some £240,000 for Shi-Wa, is London's new Tibetan Peace Garden. scheduled to be opened this summer opposite (surprise!) the

Imperial War Museum by the Dalai Lama. There was only one hitch - Styler had planned overnight accommodation for her performers in the Highgate demesne she shares with Sting. But she was embarrassed by the volume of talent that appeared on the night. And with her house still occupied by Pierce Brosnan, who's renting it for the duration of the Bond shoot, Anouska Hempel had to step in to save Styler's blushes. Hempel generously put everyone up overnight at her eponymous, and very smart, Paddington hotel. Peaceful gardens are important to the Australianborn socialite; local residents objected to her attempted annexation of Craven Hill Gardens when she first opened the hotel.

THE EU Commissioners' lemming act presents a wonderful opportunity for Euroland to eliminate the anomaly of the fat cats' dutyfree allowance. The old mob enjoyed 20,000 duty-free cigarettes per year (1,000 packs of 20); the booze exemption runs to a cirrhotic 530 bottles of wine and 120 bottles of spirits annually. Perhaps following the same rules as the rest of us might clear Commissioners' heads on the duty free issue especially the one belonging to the Danish prissypants Ritt Bjerregaard.

THIS JUST in from Madvertising Avenue: Lòwenbrau has sanctioned a 11m advertising campaign that pokes fun at the Germans' national lack of humour. Its first poster says: "Was Mozart a crossdresser? Who cares?" Not the clever boys and girls at the ad agency Edge, apparently - London resident Wolfgang

Amadeus wasn't German but Austrian, Still. Lowenbrau's boss suits are sure to see the funny side. Aren't

> CAN THIS be true? Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston are rumoured to be getting married this week in London.

Sir Cliff Richard. Devil Woman? It's plausible the Christian Socialist Movement's phone number is the positively beastly 0171-833

SO CHERIE Blair

likes the music of

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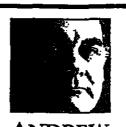
A question for the Prime Minister

I ASKED Tony Blair at Prime Minister's Question Time last June for an assurance that he would distinguish his period in office by dis-couraging "fawning, obsequious, softball, well-rehearsed and plant-ed questions" and ensure that loyal Labour Party backbenchers can provide scrutiny and accountability without fear or favour and without showing partiality or affection".

Nine months on, the answer is becoming all too glaringly obvious. The control freak tendencies within the Government are winning and the rights of backbenchers are under threat. I did not know, when I put that question, that as I did so, select committee reports were being leaked to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Robin Cook

The latest evidence that ministers are in a position to influence the committees came only last week when Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, admitted that his Parliamentary private secretary had received a leaked Select Committee report about the taxing of child benefit.

Answering my question, Mr Blair said he respected my "indepen-dence of mind and I shall do my very



MACKINLAY

The Government control freaks are winning and the rights of backbenchers are under threat

best to ensure that he retains it". The Prime Minister has sought to blur two quite distinct, and not necessarily conflicting, obligations of Labour backbenchers. Of course, we are there to argue for, and advance the implementation of, our manifesto. But manifestos are short on detail and we have a duty to ensure that the crafting of the legislation, or the executive action taken

own Socialist aims and objectives. Second, the Prime Minister

chose to ignore the constitutional duty of MPs not on the payroll to help in providing the most rigorous scrutiny and accountability. This is part of Parliament's historic role of voting supply to the Crown, which is now done, at best, superficially.

Constituency activists rightly expect me to support the Government in the lobbies, and I do. But they also expect me to criticise and cajole, encourage and enthuse the Government in fulfilling our aims and aspirations, to make the executive accountable - the principle that is the cornerstone of our democracy.

If Tony Blair has to be reminded of the need for the executive to remain accountable, he should look no further than the favouritism and cronyism of the Commissioners who brought the whole Brussels show into disrepute last week. Without checks and balances - and the freedom of elected MPs to criticise - Westminster, too, will become a breeding-ground for the abuses of power that contributed to the

by ministers, is within the party's downfall of the Major government. Activists are dismayed by controlfreakery. They do not understand why it is necessary for ministers' aides to create a new industry of planted questions and rehearsed supplementary questions. That is what has happened. Every day Par-liamentary private secretaries canvass pre-typed questions around MPs, asking them to lob them into the daily ballot for ministerial questions to be answered two wecks

later. It's as rehearsed as Hove I Got

News for You. This diminishes the chances of those MPs who have taken the trouble to be the authors of their own questions from succeeding in the ballot. Partly as a consequence of this choreography, the opportunities for true scrutiny are now shifting increasingly - to the select committees. They have become even more relevant as, inexorably, government has demonstrated a rapacious appetite for rushing through legislation, minimising debate, and

arbitrarily using executive powers. There is a presumption that in British politics "promotion" means becoming a minister. I hope we can create a culture in which it is seen that younger MPs aspiring to advancement might, instead of becoming ministers, wish to become chairs of Select Committees. There is a need to provide additional resources for the Select Committees so they can match the government departments and public bodies that they are charged with appraising

The Select Committee system needs reinforcing, not undermining by ministers. All evidence should be under oath - like the US Congressional committees - and it should be seen as a serious offence to nobble witnesses or members of the committees. They should also vet appointments such as the Monetary Committee of the Bank of England the head of the new Strategic Rail Authority and the chairman of the new Countryside Agency. Each committee should have a powerful commissioner, comparable to the Comptroller and Auditor General, to help root out the facts. This is how Mr Blair should now answer the question I put to him in June.

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The author is the Labour MP for

The rise of 'bedroom culture' spells trouble for our children

THE CABINET could profitably spend an entire meeting discussing the findings of a research project by the London School of Economics, published last week: "Children, Young People and the Changing Media Environment". First to speak should be the Home Secretary. He would perceive that parents' fears that their children could be the victims of crime or become involved with illegal drugs have significantly affected the way they are brought up.

About a third of the parents who were questioned said that their children spend "very little" or "none" of their time outside the home or garden without adults around. Most parents are more restrictive than they remember from their own youth.

These secondary effects of crime are rarely measured but can outweigh the more obvious results. Society always adjusts. Because parents no longer feel that they can let their children play in the street or run off to friends on their own, they spend a surprisingly high proportion of their income on providing media hardware for the home

television sets, videos, games machines, music equipment and PCs - often buying two of each in order to turn their children's rooms into media laboratories. At least the cooped-up young, they sigh, will have something to do. Indeed they do: they spend some five hours a day watching TV or video, listening to music, playing computer games, using the PC or reading.

At this point, the Prime Minister should turn to Mr Prescott. For there is a second reason why children spend so much of their free time at home. They cannot find affordable and accessible meeting-places. They complain about a lack of cafés, parks, swimming-pools, cinemas, skating-rinks and youth clubs.



ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Children are not willing prisoners in their homes: they say watching TV is what they do when bored

Nowhere else in Europe are young people so dissatisfied with what is available. I am not saying that Mr Prescott can easily make good this lack of facilities. But part of it is explained by planning rules and regulations and part by the inability of local authorities to meet local needs. Both are his responsibility.

The tragedy which everyone round the cabinet table should contemplate is this. Our children are not willing prisoners in their homes, with parents as more or less kindly gaolers. When the researchers asked children and young people what would comprise "a really good day", they replied: going out to the cinema, going to see friends, or playing sport. In contrast, watching television is widely seen as what you do when you are bored and have nothing better to get on with.

Yet six- to-17-year-olds spend on average two-and-a-half hours almost everyday in front of the television screen, to a large extent just filling in time.

Next to participate should be David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education. What does he make of the report's assertion that a print or reading culture as such does not exist among young people? I shall try to reply for him.

First, it is questionable whether many young people have ever done much reading. In the Fifties, before TV became a mass medium, American research showed that children read on average for 15 minutes a day. The London School of Economics study finds exactly the same figure. In fact, reading for pleasure declines with age. About two-thirds of primary school children read books for fewer than 45 minutes a day on four days a week, especially at bedtime. Thereafter there is a fall-off until aged 15 to 17, only 45 per cent do so.

Second, history shows that new media hardly ever replace older media. The cinema did not extinguish the theatre. Television did not put radio out of business. Instead, new media add to the available options.

Third, still speaking for Mr Blunkett, I would say that Marshall McLuhan's famous aphorism – the medium is the message - is wrong. What matters is the message; the means of delivery is, in the final analysis, unimportant. Increasingly in education, the screen will supplement but not supplant the printed word, as it does in work and in leisure. Literacy nowadays is an ability to handle and learn from all media - from websites to classical text. There isn't book knowledge as opposed to, say, TV learning or what the Internet teaches. Knowledge is

knowledge, regardless of its origin. The report also has implications for another minister, Chris Smith, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. For it confirms beyond



Do too many children have computers in their bedrooms?

and young people are watching television, unsupervised, well beyond 9pm. Yet television scheduling, and with it regulation, is based on the notion of a 9pm watershed.

with young families reading this activity. Overall, 72 per cent have with a sibling. And what do you find when you look in? Some 63 per cent have their own television set and 21 per cent have a video recorder. Of course, with the door shut and their parents elsewhere, even many sixto-eight-year-olds admit that they often watch TV after 9pm.

In truth, bedtime is "bedroom" time, the end of the family day but not the start of sleep. Safe in their bedrooms, many young teenagers are watching the box up to 11pm.

Yet the report finds that parents are ambivalent. They "do not worry overmuch about their children's media use". Drugs, the impact of doubt that in many homes, children crime and poor job prospects are of

greater concern. Nonetheless, parents strongly wish to be able to rely upon the good judgement of broadcasters and media regulators.

In the light of these findings, Mr The report shows what parents Smith will have to examine the watershed afresh. The questions newspaper know very well: from are whether it should be moved later around nine years old, children's and whether new rules regarding bedrooms become a centre of private the type of material that follows immediately after it need to be their own rooms and need not share devised. Bolder still would be to analyse the role of consumer advice to see whether it could be made more conveniently available. Prohibition is a difficult policy.

Of course, I have been engaging in wishful thinking. It is said that the Cabinet rarely has sustained discussions of policy matters. Everything is decided in committees and the results are merely reported to the full meeting.

Yet New Labour also believes in something called "joined-up" government. Very well then. Let the Cabinet have a joined-up discussion about the development of "bedroom culture" and what it means for trends in our society.

ETHE INDEPENDENT

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PURIFIER OFFER.

An unhealthy obsession with sex

WE NEED a society that: first, protects and promotes marriage and the family; second, ceases to be so obsessed with sex, curbs pornography and puts sexual intimacy back into its proper place in marriage; and third, respects human life from conception to its natural end and thus abolishes abortion.

The idea of marriage as a permanent lifelong commitment is often regarded as unrealistic, and even undesirable because it limits future choices. And the notion of con-natural end is an imperative of fining sexual relationships to marriage is seen by many as an unattainable fantasy. The link between life and love is broken. It is almost taken for granted that there need be no connection at all between the unitive and the procreative aspects of sexual intimacy.

Our society is faced with competing visions of what have already seen how the makes for human fulfilment and happiness. We have elevated freedom of choice to the seeming exclusion of other values. In the endless obsession with sex in so much of the media we see the peddling of unreal fantasies about what makes for human happiness.

The advancement of the "pro-life" cause regarding abortion is, I believe, not unlike the battle over slavery in the 19th century. There are powerful social, cultural, and economic forces opposing change. Gradually, however, the battle for hearts and minds will be won. And that is because, as with the right of the slave to freedom, the right of the unborn child to life is in the end

absolute and unanswerable. The need to respect human life from its conception to its any civilised society. Besides the question of abortion there is also the real threat of euthanasia

I want to raise a different issue now, though. It is one that is already rushing towards us. Our society as a whole is ill-prepared to meet it. The Church is ill-prepared to tackle it. We contraceptive mentality has distorted our society's understanding of the purpose and place of sex. In future the impact of genetic technology could have a far more profound and devastating impact on our understanding of the nature of human life itself



PODIUM CARDINAL HUME

From a speech by the head of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales to a Life conference

There is no doubt that recent advances in understanding the genetic basis of many diseases hold out the longterm prospect of therapeutic interventions at an early stage, aimed at treating the individual affected. It is said to be some years before such treatment could be a practical reality, but we are continually being surprised by the pace of science and technology. What is already a reality,

tion of foetuses. There are many stories of women who have felt under pressure to have antenatal tests for Down's syndrome, for instance, and to abort if the test is positive.

Given the astonishing rate at which the Human Genome is being mapped, I understand that it is not long before it will be possible for scientists to detect many more genetic disorders, as well as many genetic predispositions.

If such tests become widely available, and widely used, what will be the consequences? Will not individual parents start to demand the right to choose, perhaps with the wider use of IVF technology, and to discard emhryos that do not meet their requirements? It is a profoundly human instinct for parents to want the best for their children, for them to have as great a chance of succeeding in life as possible. But we seem to be on the verge of the possibility of parents choosing what they regard as the best children to have.

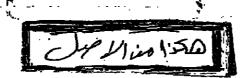
What this could unleash is the spectre of eugenics. It is not the state-sponsored kind that has haunted this century, from

however, is the selective abor- which we know that human beings are capable of using the latest scientific advances to pursue a state-sponsored eugenic policy of a horrific kind. Rather, what could now emerge is a privatised form of eugenics in which individual parents choose which children

to have, and which to abort. What if such choices are available only to the rich? And if they are available to all, how will those who choose not to abort children suffering from genetic diseases be regarded? Will society be prepared to pay the health care costs if such a child could have been aborted? How will such children see themselves? These are just some of the many questions that arise, quite apart from abortion.

The interest of society as a whole demands that we do all we can to foster a society in which every child is a wanted child, in which family life is protected and supported, in which sexual intimacy is revered as the point at which life and love meet, and in which each and every human life, from

the moment of conception, is respected and



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Can we avoid another war?



ROBERT FISK

Clinton is banging on about morality, always a dangerous drum to beat in the prelude to fighting

IN THE streets around the Avenue Kleber last week, two middle-aged men were seen in earnest conversation. As the Kosovo Albanians at the Paris "peace" talks were waiting to sign their autonomy agreement - and the Serbs were steadiastly refusing to sign anything the two men walked the boulevards of the 8th arrondissement, unrecognised by the French flics

outside the conference centre. One of these men was said to be George Busby, a diplomat in Her Majesty's embassy in Belgrade in the early Nineties. The other was Sergei Gryzounov, formerly a top KGB man in Belgrade, more re-cently Russian information minister, and now vice-president of public relations Europe for ICN Pharma-ceuticals, which is owned by the Yugoslav millionaire Milan Panic the same Panic who first opened negotiations with the Kosovo Albanians and then vainly stood in election against Slobodan Milosevic.

So what were these two old Balkan hands - and one-time rivals -talking about as they wandered the leafy boulevards? The dangers of another Balkan war? The opposition to Milosevic in Belgrade? Or the chances that the Yugoslav president might be toppled less than democratically? Could it be that the superpowers are chatting, even at this late stage, about a coup d'état in Belgrade?

By coincidence, Mr Panic is himself in Paris today to give a public lecture. The title? "A democratic alternative as a way out of the Yugoslav crisis". Nor is Mr Panic without his own business interests in the outcome of the next Balkan war. Only a month ago, he wrote an open letter to President Chirac to complain that Milosevic had sent 200 armed Serb paramilitary police () in Belgrade, refusing access to the Prime Minister Primakov would company's "American officials".

Now, why should Mr Milosevic have done that? He is, say quite a President Clinton is now banging number of Serb journalists, paranoid about Westerners in Belgrade. He is worried about his own personal safety in the event of a Nato bombardment. So he should be. For the West will do anything to avoid a real Nato war in the Balkans. The word "real" is important, because we have entered a culture of "soft"



The ramshackle Kosovo Liberation Army on the advance near Mitrovica with their heavy artillery

war. We kill. They die. As happened in Iraq. The days when "our" soldiers fell on the field of battle have been consigned to history.

Hence we have been witnessing a very odd scenario over the past two months, a piece of theatre in which a lot of things we don't need to hear are being said and a lot of things we need to know are not being divulged. Furning like a field marshal, our very own foreign secretary, Robin Cook, has been warning the Serbs that they will feel the full might of Nato's anger. Yet as the prospect of war got closer, so the rhetoric began to die down. Further discussions were needed; all members of the Contact Group would e to be "on side". The have to complete his Washington visit before the bombs could fall.

on about morality, always a dangerous drum to beat in the prelude to war. If Milosevic doesn't sign, he will pay the price. All well and good. But the Kosovo Albanians have every reason to be worried. They meekly signed up last week not to independence but to an autonomy agreement that leaves their

province very firmly in Serb hands. It was not a security guarantee. It does not promise that Nato troops will ride to the rescue if the Serbs continue to pulverise Kosovo villages. Indeed, it is not even clear what their piece of paper is worth now that the Serbs have refused to put their signature to it.

As for morality, the Kosovo Albanians understand what that means. Last month, when the US envoy Christopher Hill trotted off to Belgrade in another vain effort to get Mr Milosevic to come to heel, the Kosovars were appalled to be told that Hill had travelled to Yugoslavia with Nikola Sainovic, one of the Serb delegates. According to The Wash-Western intelligence agencies had intercepted telephone calls between the very same Sainovic and General Sreten Lukic, commander of Serb interior ministry forces in Kosovo, about how to make the Racak massacre of 45 Albanians look like the result of a battle. Why, the Kosovars wanted to know, was Mr Hill going to Belgrade with a war

At one point during the Rambouillet peace talks, the US Secre-

tary of State, Madeleine Albright, displayed diplomacy bordering on the infantile. Taking the Kosovo Liberation Army leader Hashim Thaqi to one side, Albright asked him: "Why don't you give up the armed struggle? You could be the Gerry Adams of Kosovo!" Always supposing Mr Thaqi wished to be Mr Adams - and the KLA, remember is supposed to be disarmed if given autonomy - what did this mean? That the Kosovo Albanians would

be given a referendum on their future, like the people of Northern Ireland? No way. That their signature to an autonomy agreement would inevitably lead, over the years, to independence? That's what Yasser own Oslo autonomy agreement with the Israelis (with all those American guarantees) - and look where it got him. Yet here we are, heading for

war in the Balkans. For the Beast of Baghdad, read the Beast of Belgrade. For Saddam's threat to regional Gulf security, read Slobodan's threat to regional Balkan security. For the gassings of Halabia, read the slaughter at Srebrenica. Whatever else, we will not be reminded that

the Serbs are Christian, that the Kosovars are Muslim. This must not be a religious war, unless the KLA refuse to accept their autonomy or hand over their weapons after the war, in which case - fear not anonymous diplomats will warn us that "Islamic fundamentalists" are present in Kosovo.

So what can we do to avoid war? How can Mr Milosevic be broken? There is one way in which this might be done - simple, straightforward, legal in international law, utterly moral - and that is by arresting the war criminals Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadjic, Milosevic's two henchmen in Bosnia, the men who bear most responsibility for the lim deaths and rapes, including the slaughter at Srebrenica. Could there be a clearer warning to Mr Milosevic than their arrest and dispatch to the international war crimes tribunal in The Hague?

This would give pause for thought in Belgrade. If Mladic and Karadjic now, why not Milosevic later? And they live, these two Bosnian Serb gentlemen, in areas of ex-Yugoslavia already controlled by Nato forces. But no. French and

RIGHT OF REPLY

DERICK **HEAVEN**



The Jamaican High Commissioner replies to a recent article by Kenneth Taylor on the killing of British returnees

WHEN TRUTH, half-truths and sections that are untrue are woven together as skilfully as they are in the article by Kenneth Taylor ("Paradise Lost". 19 March), it is often difficult for the reader to disentangle the three strands. The overwhelming majority of Jamaicans returning to live in their native land do so very happily. Each week here at the High Commission we receive many calls not only from those who are contentedly reestablished in the sun, but also from their children, born here in the UK, who wish to work and live in Jamaica.

Mr Taylor states that returning residents are prey to bandits stalking the Jamaican countryside". Jamaica is divided into 18 police districts; more than 70 per cent of all crime on the island is located in three inner city districts. Far from being overrun with criminal gangs, the rural areas of Jamaica are relatively peaceful. Returning residents are not at higher risk than the rest of the population of being the victims of violent crime. Without trivialising the crimes which Mr Taylor reports, in grouping them together he loses the details of the circumstances of each crime, the knowledge of which might lead to greater understanding.

American troops might end up in a

fire-fight if they attempted to grab

them. There might be Western cas-

ualties. Nato troops might go home

in coffins. And, in the new culture

of war without death, that would be

So we are preparing for cruise

missiles and Stealth bombers and

F-16s over Serbia. And then what?

What if Mr Milosevic refuses to cave

in? Are we going to invade Serbia?

No, we are not - no more than we

are going to invade Iraq to get rid

of Saddam. The truth is, we have no

plans whatever for what happens

after the bombs fall. The Kosovo

Albanians may blissfully hope that

Nato's sixth cavalry will come

Nato will not risk its soldiers to col-

lar the warlords of Bosnia, what

makes the Kosovars think they'll be

any more promiscuous with their

middle-aged men were walking

around the 8th arrondissement in

such deep conversation last week.

A coup d'état in Belgrade? Now

there's a desperate measure indeed

to avoid the prospect of a real

No wonder, then, that those two

lives in Kosovo?

ging in from Macedonia. But if

unforgivable.

Mr Taylor states that ..times have changed and they are not welcome any more". This is untrue. Jamaica welcomes all returning residents. We know that many of the reasons that have guided their dream of returning to Jamaica are still evident in our society today and the newly established Department for Overseas Jamaicans works to make their return home as smooth as possible.

It would be very useful if people like Mr Taylor sought to explore the full picture and present a less sensational account of the experiences of Jamaicans returning home.

1,000 years of misunderstanding

IF YOU think the Anglo-Saxons were rımtish little guys tafter all, average height increases century by century, doesn't it?), you'd be wrong. Their men were only an inch shorter than today's men and their women were, on average, slightly taller, by half an inch. And if you think that 1,000 years ago they were running around panicking about the end of the first millennium, that's in terms of "the Xth year of King Y's another myth. Most people had no idea what year it was.

That last statement needs clarifying. The ordinary Anglo-Saxon in the muddy lane would talk of "So many years since the Great Storm/Flood/ Plague", and a fair number might think

MONDAY POEM

IT IS AS IF GIACOMETTI'S DOG ... BY LIZ ATKIN

is alive and living in leafy Hexham with an elderly woman,

a pure white whippet he is blade thin, skeletal armature for Dog. tiny biscuit barrel of ribs atop pipe cleaner legs tail wire curled under.

Too sharp to stroke his eyes and nose are all that seem alive, his bleached bark a hollowed-out howl of wind;

he clicks quiet and stiff behind her round the house, but with her eyesight nearly gone she thinks him dead and only sees his ghost.

From Liz Atkin's collection 'Glee with a Blue Background', published at £3.95'by Diamond Twig Press, 5 Bentinck Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 6UT



MONDAY BOOKS

THE YEAR 1000 BY ROBERT LACEY AND DANNY DANZIGER. LITTLE, BROWN, £12.99 1066: THE YEAR OF THE THREE BATTLES BY FRANK MCLYNN, JONATHAN CAPE, £18.99

reign". But the monks knew what year it was; 269 years earlier, in his Ecclesiastical History of the English People, the Venerable Bede had popularised Dionysius Exiguus's Anno Domini system of counting the years. ie known as 'crazy bread'." Another popular misconception is Such was Bede's influence that the cumulative Anglo-Saxon Chronicle took up the idea just over a century be-

fore the millennium. So as the three zeros approached, was there fearful anticipation of the return of Christ? Perhaps, but very little, according to Robert Lacey and Danny Danziger in their thoroughly enjoyable The Year 1000. In fact, there was more concern over the year 1033 as the (supposed) 1,000th anniversary of the death and Resurrection of Christ: the real start of Christianity.

Lacey and Danziger, both journalists rather than historians, took an unusual approach to researching this book, which is subtitled "What life was like at the turn of the first millennium: an Englishman's world". As well as the usual reading, they interviewed more than 50 historians. This not only ensured factual material; it also provided a mass of almost anecdotal details.

recalled from lifetimes of study. For instance, you may think of July as a good month, but one historian calls it "the hungry gap", with last year's stored food exhausted and this year's harvest a month away. Even in a good year July was a time of hunger; m a bad year, it meant starvation. Was this made better or worse for poor through lack of nourishment, by the and especially of the characters in- (above) were as complex as today

fact that mouldy rye could produce lys-ergic acid diethylamide – LSD? The people seemed to know what they were doing: "Poppies, hemp and dar-nel were scavenged, dried, and ground up to produce a medieval hash brown-

that medieval England was heavily wooded. In fact, early Britons, Romans and Anglo-Saxons had all felled trees in order to plant crops. The countryside did not look too dissimilar to today's. Practically every village and town on modern maps already existed in the year 1000, under more or less today's name. Our language too, was already well-developed, a pidgin merg-ing of two "similar yet awkwardiy different" tongues, Anglo-Saxon and Norse. Grammatical differences were solved by "the rubbing away through day-to-day usage of complicated word endings". Yet, intriguingly, those words we now euphemistically call "Anglo-Saxon" were a much later import; there is no evidence of swear-words or obscenities in the "English" of the

But popular myths live on. Every schoolboy knows exactly what hapened two-thirds of a century later. Harold's army had just returned exhausted from fighting another campaign, William's troops were far better armed, and Harold died with an arrow through his eye. Wrong on all counts, according to Frank McLynn in 1066: the Year of the Three Battles, his thoroughly detailed study of the events

volved. The historical truth is far more complex and intriguing than schoolboy beliefs. In contrast to Lacey and Danziger's light history, McLynn's book is a more academic study, sometimes heavy going, in part simply be-cause of the vast number of characters, many of whom have very

1066

THE TIME OF THE

McLynn takes the three main characters of 1066 - Harold Godwinson, King of England only since January. Harald Hardrada, sole King of Norway for nearly 20 years, and William, who

and plotting, and intrigue and treachery too. These two books could hardly be more different in style, though they deal with much the same period. MoLynn's is more a traditional history, full of kings and battles and dates; Lacey and Danziger tell how life was lived by the ordinary villager or monk. Yet, taken together, they are beautifully complementary, and provide a superb insight into life as it was lived a thou-



countryfolk, already light-headed leading up to the Norman invasion, Northern European politics in the time of William the Conqueror



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Sy make the

of the greatest comedy double act in the history of British television. Morecambe and Wise. Wise, the smaller in stature (a disparity in height being the feature of all the finest comedy duos), was the butt of Eric Morecambe's jokes, referred to as the one with the "short, fat, hairy legs", and teased about his nonexistent toupee with the words "You can't see the join".

It was Wise who opened each show with the greeting, "Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the show", and revelled in boasting of "a play wot I wrote", while Morecambe proceeded to sabotage such literary efforts, determined to knock his supposedly pompous partner down a peg or two. "What do you think of it so far?" Morecambe would ask, replying himself, in ventriloquist style, "Rubbish!"

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Morecambe and Wise's Christmas shows were consistently ratings-toppers, with audiences of as many as 28 million, and stars queued up to appear on screen with the pair, often only to be sent up. Glenda Jackson performed with Morecambe in a pastiche of a Fred Astaire/Ginger Rogers dance routine that finished with the Oscar-winning actress vanishing over the top of a staircase that led nowhere. The newsreader Angela Rippon danced deftly across the screen in an evening dress split to the thigh. The conductor André Previn leapt into the air while conducting his symphony orchestra so that Morecambe, playing a Grieg piano concerto rather amateurishly could see him over the piano lid. Even the former prime minister Harold Wilson appeared in one sketch.

The list of personalities who joined Morecambe and Wise on screen down the years read like a roll-call of Britain's finest actors and entertainers. The joke was that Wise would grovel to these luminaries while Morecambe treated them with contempt and consistently forgot their names.

Morecambe and Wise had originally modelled their cross-talk act, combining quickfire gags with visual jokes, on the film giants Abbott and Costello and the more short-lived but hugely popular Wheeler and Woolsey - to whom they bore a remarkable physical resemblance but their brilliant timing later caused critics to liken them to Laurel and Hardy. In their act, crafted in music halls and variety theatres, Wise was the straight man, on the receiving end of Morecambe's buffoonery and insults, although this one-sidedness gradually changed as greater sub-

tlety and characterisation took over. The partnership ended only with Morecambe's death in 1984, which End stage actor and television game-show panellist.

He was born Ernest Wiseman in Leeds in 1925, and had his first taste of show business at the age of seven performing in northern working men's clubs alongside his father, a railway porter, in the amateur double act Carson and Kid, later known as Bert Carson and His Little Wonder and, at times, The Two Tetleys, after the local beer. It was a songsand-gags act but also included the youngster performing a high-speed clog dance. "The faster I danced, the faster the crowds threw money," he later recalled.

He made his professional début in January 1939 in the bandleaderturned-impresario Jack Hylton's stage production of the popular BBC radio programme Band Waggon, alongside Arthur Askey and Richard Murdoch, at the Prince's Theatre, London, after being audi-

FOR 40 years, Ernie Wise was half with his bespectacled partner, he Sid Field, at the Prince of Wales lished them as major stars. It was of the greatest comedy double act in branched out to work as both a West Theatre in London, although they during this series that they adopt-Theatre in London, although they were only understudies in that and performed their double act just twice. However, they gained good broadcasting experience by landing regular work in the BBC radio

> joining the Merchant Navy and Morecambe - after working for a short time with the comedian Gus Morris - becoming a Bevin Boy down the coalmines, only to be discharged

In 1947, the two met again by

'We were ordained for each other,' said Wise. 'I wouldn't have teamed up with anubody else. It was like a marriage'

tioned by a talent-spotter, Bryan Michie, who had tipped off Hylton: Just a couple of weeks after the production opened, the 13-year-old Wiseman was brought in to add a juvenile flavour to the proceedings, earning six pounds a week, three times his father's weekly wage. It was Hylton who changed Wiseman's stage name to Wise.

In the same year, he was chosen to star in Bryan Michie's stage "discovery" show Youth Takes a Bow, again presented by Jack Hylton. Sitting alongside the former bandleader in a Manchester cinema, Wise watched an audition at which the comedian John Eric Bartholomew did impressions of Flanagan and Allen and Fred Astaire. Bartholomew, who had made his début as a "gormless" comic in variety at the Empire, Nottingham, and was later to adopt the name of his Lancashire birthplace, Morecambe, joined Michie's touring show, but it was Wise who gained rave reviews as "the Jack Buchanan of tomorrow", "the young Max Miller" and "Britain's own Mickey Rooney".

Spurred on by Bartholomew's mother, Sadie, the pair eventually formed a double act, which they first performed as Morecambe and Wise at the Empire Theatre, Liverpool, in 1941, while still in Youth Takes a Bow. They subsequently appeared left Wise with the task of rebuilding two years later in the George Black his career. Although he never revue Strike a New Note, which The Morecambe and Wise Show. reached the same heights as he had starred the legendary comedian

series Youth Must Have Its Fling. Then both went their separate vays to do National Service, Wise

after 11 months with a weak heart.

chance, when Morecambe joined Lord George Sanger's Circus and Variety Show as feed to the resident comic. who turned out to be Wise. Standing in the centre of the circus ring, wearing dinner suits and gumboots, they would sometimes perform with not a soul in the audience. After the show folded, they eventually found an agent who booked them for

a show at the Walthamstow Palace, in east London, where the duo were billed as Morecambe and Wisdom because there was already an act

called Campbell and Wise on the bill. They subsequently entertained the troops with Ensa (the Entertainment National Service Association) and performed at the famous Windmill Theatre in Soho, and in nude touring shows, providing comic relief in between the star turns.

After further work in variety theatres - working their way up to become second on the bill to international entertainers such as Lena Horne - and guest spots in the radio show Workers' Playtime and a long run in the broadcast revue Variety Fanfare, they landed their own series. You're Only Young Once, in the BBC's northern region, which cast them as owners of the Morecambe and Wise Detective Agency, with a guest celebrity bringing the pair of bungling sleuths a new case to tackle each week.

Then, in April 1954, the duo began their first television series, Running Wild, but the six BBC shows proved a disaster and took them several years to live down. During that time, they continued to develop their act on radio and in summer shows. After regular appearances in 1960 on Sunday Night at the London Palladium. the following year they bounced back on to television, on ITV, with

It ran for seven years and estab-

during this series that they adopted a Johnny Mercer number, "Two of a Kind", as one of their theme tunes. Later, "Bring Me Sunshine" was to become their trademark song, played at the end of the show as they exited with a hompipe-style dance, hands behind backs.

Their venture into feature films, with three comedy-thrillers - starting in 1965 with The Intelligence Men, followed by That Riviera Touch and The Magnificent Two in each of the following years - was less successful. The Morecambe and Wise humour was never successfully translated to film, with storylines that were far removed from their usual patter and a method of shooting that did not suit their off-the-cuff style, but lack of success in this medium did nothing to abate their small-screen popularity. They even travelled to America to appear regularly on The Ed Sullivan Show and had their own series, Piccadilly Palace, made in Britain by Lew Grade for screening in the United States.

The ITV show finished in 1968, when Eric Morecambe suffered a heart attack, but he recovered and The Morecambe and Wise Show switched channels, with Eddie Braben replacing Dick Hills and Sid Green as scriptwriter a year later after work lured the original writers to America. The duo's 10 years at the BBC proved to be their most popular. The series was a ratings topper and the annual Morecombe and Wise Christmas Show became an institution. The sight of Morecambe wearing glasses on the side of his head and slapping Wise across the face was a guaranteed audiencepuller and enticed some of the biggest stars to ioin them in front of the cameras during this time - so it was a blow to the BBC when the pair returned to ITV with their show in 1978.

They were lured back by Thames Television with the promise of more money and a chance to appear in films but, with a change of scriptwriters, The Morecambe and Wise Show never reached the heights it had done and only one television film was made, the poorly received Night Train to Murder (1984). The BBC cashed in by repeating old programmes under the title Morecambe and Wise at the BBC and repackaging them into 70 half-hour shows for screening in America. The move to ITV also saw Morecambe and Wise making a guest appearance in The Sweeney (1978), with Regan and Carter conducting an investigation at a club where the pair were supposedly performing

A year later, Morecambe suffered his second heart attack and had to undergo open-heart surgery. Then, in 1984, after finishing a real-



Wise, right, and Morecambe. They were initially billed as Morecambe and Wisdom

tershire, he died of another attack. His death, at the age of 58, signalled the end of British television's bestloved comedy duo, who had appeared in five Royal Variety Performances.

Picking up the pieces of his career. Wise had the difficult task of being the straight man who had to find new vehicles for his talents. He performed in cabaret in Australia in 1986, played the chairman, William Cartwright, in the London West End musical version of the unfinished Dickens novel The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Savoy Theatre, 1987). which ran for only 10 weeks, and Det Sgt Porterhouse in the farce Run for life stage show, at the Roses Your Wife (Criterion Theatre, 1988) Theatre, Tewkesbury, in Glouces- and was on television as a regular said. "I wouldn't have teamed up Buckinghamshire 21 March 1999.

as appearing in three Telethons in New Zealand and one in Australia. He acted in the American television comedy series Too Close for Comfort (1985) and, back in Britain, presented The Morecambe and Wise duo's finest performances from their BBC shows.

Wise was also the subject of This is Your Life (1991) and a 40 Minutes programme subtitled The Importance of Being Ernie (1993), which charted the problems of facing up to life as a solo performer after years of endearing himself to the comedian and actor: born Leeds 27 nation as half of a double act. "We were ordained for each other," he 1953 Doreen Blifth; died Wezham.

panellist in What's My Line?, as well with anybody else, only Eric. It was like a marriage."

Morecambe and Wise wrote two autobiographies together. Eric and Ernic (1973) and There's No Answer to That! (1981), as well as several other books based on their Classics, featuring some of the television shows, including The Best of Morecambe and Wise (1974) and Morecambe and Wisc Special (1974). Wise later wrote his own autobiography, Still on My Way to Hollywood (1990).

ANTHONY HAYWARD

Ernest Wiseman (Ernie Wise), November 1925: OBE 1976; married

Alfred Schlee

ALFRED SCHLEE was one of the most important and least prominent arbiters of taste in 20th-century music. The enthusiasms of the conductors and pundits fill the headlines; Schlee, head of the Vienna-based music publishers Universal Edition for 40 years, was more concerned with filling his catalogue, and he chose his composers with an impeccable ear for their likely development.

The list of Universal composers testifies to the acuity of his judgement: it bristles with names like Berio, Birtwistle, Kagel, Messiaen, Párt, Rihm, Schwertsik and Shchedrin. The basis of his success was his unfailing intellectual curiosity - Pierre Boulez, one of the modernist jewels in the Universal crown, said of Schlee: "He always has his nose in the wind." Schlee was born in Dresden in

1901, studying piano, cello and music theory at school before moving on to Munich University to take courses in musicology with Adolf Sand- Oskar Schlemmer, and in 1925 he got the operatic section of Universal Edi-



Schlee: 'A nose in the wind'

berger and composition with August Reuss. Schlee was already showing a deep interest in modern art: he was in close contact with the Bauhaus

then busy preparing for the premiere of Alban Berg's opera Wozzeck.

Schlee had intended to go on to a PhD in Vienna, but the combination of two factors - his father's sudden illness and the hyper-inflation that was then beginning to bite - put further study beyond his financial means. He took to the keyboard and the pen, acting as accompanist to the singers Mary Wigman and Yvonne Georgi and writing ballet criticism. In 1924 he took up a post as Dramaturg at the Stadttheater in Munster, where he also worked as répétiteur. It was now that he first came into contact with Universal Edition (which, founded in 1901, was exactly the same age as he was); among the jobs he was given was the editing of a special number of Anbruch, the periodical of Vienna's musical avant-garde. In 1927 Hans circle in Dessau and the architect Heinsheimer, the visionary head of microcosm. With the weight of Her-

became his life - and he saved its.

His first important job was as Universal's representative in Berlin, where the Nazis' cultural policies were putting large sections of the Universal catalogue out of bounds: Arnold Schönberg and Alban Berg were both Jewish; so, too, were Gustav Mahler, Darius Milhaud, Ernst Krenek, Karol Rathaus and many others; and Anton von Webern, though an enthusiastic national socialist, also wrote "degenerate" music. For the Nazis, indeed, Universal was a "Jewish publisher". Schlee watched the exodus of his friends with a heavy heart, bolstered by his conviction that Hitler's regime couldn't last.

Schlee returned to Vienna in 1938, and his finest hour began, as Germany's swallowing of Austria was repeated in music-publishing mann Goering behind them, the

to know the conductor Erich Kleiber, tion, offered Schlee a job. Universal German publishers Schott bought up Universal; the prize was passed to another firm, Peters, when it was decided that Schott wasn't reliable either. Schlee decided he would have to act if Universal was to survive.

> With the help of some of the more humane officials in charge of Vienna, Schlee set about preserving the Universal catalogue. The mayor of Vienna was, of course, a Nazi, but he was also a Austrian nationalist, and Schlee saw that he would be useful in preventing the wholesale loss of Universal to Germany. Highly placed helpers made sure the Gestapo were kept off Schlee's back - they called on Universal only once, confiscating music by Kurt

Weill and Franz Schreker. But Schlee saw the danger and immediately began removing scores and instrumental parts to safe havens, often in semi-official transport, on the grounds that the material had to be protected from bombing. Works

of Schönberg and Weill were hidden fold Kariheinz Stockhausen, Roman behind organs in country churches; Schlee's own house in Semmering was used to secrete scores; and until the war Schlee did what he could to export his forbidden music, correctly reckoning that the Nazis were even more interested in gaining foreign currency than in

suppressing Jewish composers. After the war, and with Universal re-established as an Austrian, not a German, business, Schlee now began to expand the company. He had already contracted Rolf Liebermann and Frank Martin to Universal, with a view to publishing them "when that Hitler is out of the way". Gottfried von Einem, whose mother had been instrumental in safeguarding condemned music, became a Universal composer; so, too, did Luigi Dallapiccola, Bohuslav Martinu and Mario Peragallo.

Schlee enthusiastically embraced the avant-garde, bringing into his

Haubenstock-Ramati, Mauricio Kagel, Friedrich Cerha, Sylvano Bussotti and others, and extended his helping hand to Eastern bloc composers - György Kurtág, György Ligeti, Edison Denisov, Alfred Schnittke - being given the official cold shoulder by the Communists who had taken over their homelands.

Schlee was an intensely private man. Pierre Boulez, who knew him for nearly 50 years, confessed, "If you want to know something about him, you have to ask someone else." That privacy was maintained even in death: Schlee's funeral was over and done with before the world knew he had gone.

MARTIN ANDERSON

Alfred Schlee, music publisher: born Dresden, Germany 19 November 1901; married 1960 Margarethe Molner (two sons); died Vienna 16 February 1999.

Sir Giles Loder Bt

FOR MOST of this century the Loder during the testing middle years of ty College, Cambridge, in the interfamily has been synonymous with West Sussex gardening. Members of its various branches have owned tremendous gardens at Leonardslee near Horsham, High Beeches near Handcross and Wakehurst near Haywards Heath. While all three survive and flourish, only Leonardslee remains in the family's ownership, due largely to the commitment and sensible management of Sir Giles Loder.

The names Loder and Leonardslee are familiar to gardeners all over the world who may never have been near the garden to which Loder devoted much of his life; for both are attached to several varieties of rhododendron. One, Leonardslee Giles, was specifically named for the baronet who inherited the estate when he was only five, kept it going

on rhododendrons that his grandfather Sir Edmund Loder, the second baronet, had pioneered.

To grow rhododendrons successfully you need a large woodland garden on acid soil. To create such a garden is one kind of achievement: to sustain and embellish it in adverse economic conditions is another, requiring immense reserves of patience and dedication.

Giles Loder had those qualities in abundance. Born at the beginning of the First World War, he scarcely knew his father, Captain Robert Loder, Sir Edmund's eldest son, who was killed in action. The baronetcy passed directly to Giles when Sir Edmund

While he was at Eton and Trini-

the century and continued the work war years, his mother Muriel ran the estate. His lifelong fascination with machines led him to take an Engineering degree at Cambridge, where he also became interested in sailing and boat design. When the Second World War broke out he was first commissioned in the Surrey and Sussex Yeomanry but was moved to the Vosper shipyards to work on the technical and design aspects of new

vessels for the Royal Navy. A few months before the war he had married Marie Symons-Jeune. the daughter of Captain Bertram Symons-Jeune, a 1930s garden designer best known for his work on naturalistic rockeries. Her inherited expertise and interest in horticulture made her an invaluable partner when, returning from the

war, he devoted himself full-time to rieties. Both sat on many RHS com- itors enjoy looking out for the walrunning the garden and the estate. Loder never lost his interest in

sailing and owned several boats, continuing as an active yachtsman until he was obliged to give it up at 65. Family holidays with their two sons would often involve navigating the waterways of Europe. A member of the élite Royal Yacht Squadron, he was a regular at the Cowes regatta, where he sometimes skippered the 12-metre yacht Kaylena, belonging to a friend.

At Leonardslee, Giles and Marie Loder decided to enhance the plantings of rhododendrons and magnolias by introducing hundreds of new varieties of camellias, which they especially enjoyed. They built two large greenhouses so that they could extend the range to tender va-

mittees and were holders of the Vic- labies who live in the valley and help toria Medal of Honour, the highest accolade of the RHS.

His was a tremendous presence in the circle of knowledgeable enthusiasts drawn to rhododendrons and in 1997 he had the odd distinction of winning the society's Loder Cup for his work on the shrub - an award instituted by one of the Wakehurst Loders. He also won prizes for his pedigree Red Poll and Dexter cattle.

Edmund Loder in the 1890s in a lovely valley embracing a series of hammer ponds used in iron smelting in at the wild life. They were on one the 16th and 17th centuries, when that was the area's principal industry. Although essentially a late spring garden it is popular throughout the summer months, when vis-

keep the grass trimmed.

When, in 1981, Giles and Marie Loder moved to Cuckfield, they handed over the estate to their younger son, Robin, because his elder brother, Edmund, was more interested in training and breeding racehorses. The family tradition is being maintained by Robin's son Christopher. who runs a nursery on the estate.

Giles Loder took a keen interest Leonardslee was created by Sir in birdwatching. He and his wife would go on ambitious journeys to the Amazon or the Antarctic to look such trip in October 1987 when a hurricane tore through the south-east of England and did so much damage to Leonardslee and other gardens.



Loder: rhododendron growing

Giles Rolls Loder, gardener, born London 10 November 1914; succeeded 1930 as third Bt; married 1939 Marie Symons-Jeune (two sons): died Haywards Heath, West MICHAEL LEAPMAN Susser 24 February 1999.

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Wendy Boase

WENDY BOASE, founding editor of Walker Books, epitomised all that is best in an editor: she cared passionately about her authors and her books, she cared about the words and the pictures, she cared about every detail of a book's production. Such editors are rare.

51-e was born in Melbourne and had what she described as a "typically outdoorsy Australian upbringing". Much of her time was spent helping her mother run a country store which sold "everything from bras to bathing caps." An avid reader from the start, she discovered the world of Australian children's classics and never lost her fondness for such seminal titles as May Gibbs's Smugglepot and Cuddlepie (1918) and The Magic Pudding by Norman Lindsay (1918). Good storytelling was important to her; she valued and appreciated the quality it could bring into a child's life.

Her schooling was somewhat indifferent but she went on to Sydney University to study Anglo-Saxon and Middle English. A two-year period of teaching in a private school followed her graduation, but then, like so many young Australians of her generation, she set off in 1968 for the almost obligatory "year in H ope" - a year which turned into a lifetime. In London she taught for a while, then took off to travel round Europe and North America.

Returning to London, Boase enjoyed a brief and unlikely spell as a croupier in a gambling club before taking her first publishing job at Reader's Digest, where she was a reluctant secretary until she was promoted to the research department. From there she went to Marshall Cavendish, the book packager. There she met the charismatic Sebastian Walker and the art director Amelia Edwards.

When Walker began his publishing adventure Walker Books, in 1978, he invited Boase to join him "to look after the words". Walker, Boase, and Edwards together set up the fledgling company in the spare bedroom of Walker's Islington home and from this modest start grew a children's book publishing comy which is now one of the most innovative, successful and admired in the world. After Walker's premature death in 1991 the company took on a more structured framework and Boase

joined the new board, becoming **Editorial Director.**

Boase's life was Walker Books. She had vast energy, a huge capacity for work and a fiercely protective attitude towards her authors and artists. She also had a finely tuned feeling for good writing, picking out from the never-ending piles of unsolicited manuscripts such talented writers as Hugh Scott, whose novel Why Weeps the Brogan? won the Whitbread Award in 1989, and Lesley Howarth, who won the Guardian Fiction Award in 1995 with Map Head.

She was especially proud of the Maisy books by Lucy Cousins, and when the first dummies of these little books arrived in the Walker office Boase ran round to everyone enthusiastically hailing a potential bestseller. She was

Nothing but the rarest kind of best is good enough for children,' wrote Walter de la Mare. Wendy Boase lived that ideal

right; 10 titles have followed the original Moisy Goes to Bed (1990), with several more to be published this autumn, including Maisy's Mix-and-Match Mousewear. The books have became world-wide favourites, published in 16 languages. One of Boase's last great coups was the development of a forth-coming television series featuring Maisy.

Boase was an influential figure in the groundbreaking deal Walker struck with Sainsbury, the subsequent marketing in Sainsbury stores of highquality, low-cost children's books, produced by Walker, was one of the most significant developments in children's publishing since the Second World War.

But it was fiction which was Boase's particular love and over 10 years she



Boase's life was Walker Books, which she joined when it began in 1978

built the Walker fiction list to its present pre-eminent position at a time when many publishers were cutting back on their children's fiction. This took courage and vision, and it was a venture supported by the chairman of Walker Books, David Lloyd, from the start.

Like all good editors, Boase ab-horred sloppiness and could be impatient if her high standards were not met. But her colleagues loved and respected her, and many young editors benefited from her training. A rather severe and unchanging hair-style could give her a formidable air, but this was misleading - she was never a grande dame. She retained her down-to-earth Australian directness of manner, did not suffer fools, and had a robustly earthy sense of hu-

mour Boase claimed to have no hobbies but she enjoyed walking and country life, was interested in antiques, never stopped reading and once knitted a Kaffe Fassett sweater Cancer struck her with terrible swiftness and was endured with awesome grace.

"Nothing but the rarest kind of best in anything is good enough for children," wrote Walter de la Mare. Wendy Boase lived that ideal, and the many authors and artists she nurtured with such skill will keep it alive for her.

JULIA MACRAE

Wendy Boase, book editor: born Melbourne, Victoria 14 October 1944; married 1979 John Vigurs; died London 15

LITERARY NOTES

DEBBIE TAYLOR

Time to get out of the kitchen

SPRING IS the season of the Orange Prize for women's garden. All the evidence Orange Prize for women's fiction. It now sprawls like marmalade across nearly three months: from the inaugural Orange Lecture this Monday, through the Orange Breakfast at the end of the month (when the long short-list is announced), on through to the June Declaration of the short short-list and the final prizewinner a week later.

And once again, as every year, it will be open season on the award's feminist agenda as the media get their knickers in a familiar twist about anything smacking of positive discrimination. What may not be realised, however, is that this whole debate is being quietly overtaken by events. Inexorably women are sloughing off decades of under-education and gaining on men in the race for literary distinction.

From birth, women display a greater aptitude for and love of words. Girls speak, read and write earlier than boys and stay ahead in verbal skills all the way through school: As women, they tend to buy more books than men. borrow more from libraries and spend more time reading. In fact, there are now twice as many woman literature graduates than men; twice as many enrolling on creative-writing courses.

shows a woman author's path is strewn with many

more thorns than a man's. For a start, women simply have less time to devote to their writing. The UK's most recent national survey found women doing twice as much housework and childcare as men. Candia McWilliam spoke for many when she claimed that "one child equals two unwritten books".

It's no coincidence that so many prominent woman authors, today and throughout history, are either childless or lesbian or both. Confidence is another problem. A series of recent surveys and market research carried out found that, despite their passion for writing. women are over 50 per cent less likely than men to submit their work for publication.

In a sense this is not surprising. The world of literature, as reflected in the national press, is still a very masculine domain, with twice as many books by men published and over twice as many reviewed - by reviewers who are three times as likely to be men.

Then there are the literary prizes. Men have outnumbered women by around two to one on all the major shortlists for the last 30 years. In poetry the imbalance is Of course, this doesn't even greater, with men win-

ning over nine out of every 10 prizes

But those who look carefully enough see that the tide is on the turn. Never before have so many women taken writing quite so seriously. The two last censuses revealed a quite dramatic increase in the numbers of women taking up writing as a career. From being just 34 per cent of people whose main occupation was writing in 1981, the number of women had increased to 43 per cent a decade later. Come 2001, if the trend continues, female writers will outnumber male writers for the first time in history. And that's not including the many thousands writing part-time, in snatched and stolen time, in "that still

before the baby's cry". It's time to stop picking at the scabs of an old debate and look at the bigger picture. Yes, it is more difficult for woman writers to make a mark. But hey: they are good, they are on their way, they are getting there. And they deserve any prize that's going. As the judges digest the submissions for the Orange Prize, it's time for the spoilers to get out of the kitchen. The

blue almost eternal hour

Debbie Taylor edits 'Mslexia', the new magazine for woman writers launched

cooking time is over.

Professor Trevor Saunders

TREVOR SAUNDERS was a leading authority on ancient Greek philosophy and a superb teacher. He was known inside and outside Newcastle University for his personal integrity, scrupulous fairness, and strong sense of where a scholar's interests lay spiced with occasional bouts of dark foreboding about What The Administration Was Planning Next, which never failed to give pleasure.

He faced the destructive absurdities foisted upon universities in recent years not with blind resistance or hopeless resignation, but with a determination to preserve what every serious researcher in the humanities needs and the authorities nowadays bend over backwards to deny - the time to read, think and write. His own work on Plato showed what could be done by a scholar who harvested his research time carefully but without compromising his commitment to students and colleagues or his sense of duty, however weary at times. to the administration.

His qualities were always in demand, locally and nationally, and brought him the chairmanship of the Council of University Classics Departments, membership of the government research assessment panel for Classics. i a seat on the Council of Durham University, To his secure, clear-eved judgement the Newcastle Classics Department and Arts Faculty turned, with gratitude and relief, time and again.

Saunders was raised on a farm in

Wiltshire, went to Chippenham Gram-mar School, in 1953 took up a scholarship at University College London (graduating with a First in Classics) and ended his formal education at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he completed a doctorate on Plato's Lows. Greek social, political and legal thought was to become the focus of his scholarly life, but early on he found he had a talent for translating, and produced a series of first-rate Penguin Classics. These included Plato's Laws (1970), a complete revision of Aristotle's Politics (1981, originally by T.A. Sinclair - this paved the way for his text and translation of the first two books of The Politics in the Clarendon Aristotle series. 1993) and Plato's Ion in Early Socratic Dialogues (1987). a collection be edited and introduced.

His enviable gift for making complicated philosophy in an ancient language and distant culture comprehensible to a lay readership was never more clearly exhibited than in his teaching, to whose clarity, cogency, vigour and wit generations of students can testify. His scholarly work showed precisely the same qualities - he had no time for the trendy obfuscations of the contemporary literary scene - and commanded a similar respect among his peers, as two recent international conferences on Plato's Lows demonstrated.

His Plato's Penal Code (1991), a fat book without an ounce of fat on it, was



Saunders: Plato comprehended

reflection on Plato, a major contribution to our understanding of ancient Greek legal theory and practice, and a fitting monument to the man and his scholarship: beautifully written, wide-ranging the surveys the field from Homer onwards) and sharply focused, rigorously and courteously argued, and exactingly annotated

Due to retire in September, he had been planning for some time the first modern investigation of ancient Greek theories of equity when cancer of the pancreas was diagnosed, leaving him a few weeks to live. This he bore with the culmination of a lifetime's intense a proper philosophical equanimity.

buoyed by his and his beloved family's longstanding Catholic faith.

A demon croquet player (given the chance), Trevor Saunders found his relaxation in films and railways. It seemed that there was virtually no film he had not seen or would not go to see (for a long time he possessed no television, deing its small screen) and there was certainly nothing about the most obscure branch-line on which he would not discourse, if promoted. Films about railways were his idea of heaven. He was on the footplate of the last train to travel the Wansbeck line, and tape-recorded the sound for posterity His cremation ended. as his family fittingly insisted, with the sound of that train chugging out of Wood-burn station, bearing him on its way. PETER JONES

Trevor John Saunders, classical scholar: born Corsham, Wiltshire 12 July 1934: Assistant Lecturer in Latin, Bed ford College, London University 1959-61; Assistant Lecturer in Classics, Hull University 1961-63, Lecturer 1963-65; Lecturer in Classics, Newcastle University, 1965-72, Senior Lecturer 1972-78, Reader in Greek Philosophy 1978, Professor of Greek 1978-99, Head of Classics 1972-82, 1987-92, Dean of the Faculty of Arts 1982-85; Chairman, Council of University Classics Departments 1981-84; married 1959 Teresa Schmitz (two daughters); died Newcastle upon Tyne 24 January 1999.

CASE SUMMARIES

22 MARCH 1999

life imprisonment, required

that the offender had had pos-

the offender himself had never

Neil Moore (CPS) for the Attorney General: Louise Godfrey QC (Gra-

had possession of it.

THE FOLLOWING notes of judgments were prepared by the reporters of the All England Law Reports.

Costs

v Liverpool Magistrates' Court, ex p Abiaka; QBD, Div Ct (Kennedy LJ. Blofeld J) 5 March 1999.

ON A true construction of s 16(1) of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985 any magistrates' court had the power to make a defendant's costs order: the power was not restricted to the particular bench of magistrates who had actually dismissed the case against the defendant. Furthermore, there was nothing in the statute which stated that costs orders had to be made timeously. Stuart Mills (R.M. Broudie & Co, Liperpool) for the applicant.

Hillsdown Holding pic v IR Commrs; Ch D (Arden J) 11

THE WORD "payment" meant 'effective payment" in relation to a payment made to an employer out of its approved pension scheme, giving rise to a tax liability under s 601 of the Taxes Act 1988. Where the payment to the employer was found to be in breach of trust. and was returned to the pension fund by order of the court. there was no "effective payment" and the Revenue had to repay the tax

David Oliver QC and Nigel Giffen (Herbert Smith) for the taxpayer; lan Click QC and Richard Gillis (IR Soln) for the Crown.

Sentencing

Attorney-General's Reference (No 71 of 1998); CA. Crim Div (Judge آـلّـ, Sachs, Klevan JJ) 8 March 1999.

WHERE AN offender who had

already been convicted of a liminary issues in the same lit-"serious offence" within s 2(5) igation, since those judgements of the Crime (Sentences) Act were binding only in relation to 1997 committed a robbery which, in order to qualify as a second "serious offence" making him liable to a sentence of

session of a firearm, it was Willan) for the respondents. sufficient that the offence had been committed as a joint Extradition enterprise where a firearm had been used, even though

hame Stowe Bateson, Leeds) for the offender.

Employment Barber and ors v RJB Mining (UK) Ltd; QBD (Gage J) 3

March 1999. . REGULATION 4(1) of the Working Time Regulations 1998, which set a maximum weekly working time for all workers covered by the regulations, imposed a contractual obligation on the parties which was capable of remedy in the civil courts, and accordingly the employment tribunal did not have exclusive urisdiction over claims arising out of the regulations.

Brian Langstoff QC (Keeble Hawson, Sheffield) for the plaintiffs; Nicholas Underhill QC (Freshfields) for the defendant.

Reinsurance

Wurtiembergische Aktiengeselleschaft Versicherungs-Beteiligungsesellschaft v Home Insurance Co; CA (Butler-Sloss. Aldous, Brooke LJJ) 9 March

A JUDGE deciding a preliminary issue in the course of prolonged litigation was wrong to use the expression "persuaearlier judgments on other pre- Solicitors for the respondents.

the matters which they had Jonathan Hirst QC. Neil Calver (Barlow Lyde & Gilbert) for the appellants; Mark Howard QC. Robin Dicker (Holman Fenwick &

Re Burke; QBD, Div Ct (Rose LJ, Mitchell J) 16 March 1999. THE WORD "sentence" in art VII(4) of Sch 1 to the United States of America (Extradition) order 1976 was not confined to a sentence of imprisonment, but included a term of supervised release to be served following a term in custody. Such a supervised release was not an ancillary order, but was an integral part of the sentence passed. Furthermore, an order to pay a sum of money by way of restitution and a fine also fell within the article as being a sentence.

John Hardy (Christmas & Sheehan) for the applicant: Roy Brown (CPS) for the Governor of Brixton Prison and the United States Government.

Adoption Re B (a minor) (adoption order: nationality): House of Lords (Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Hoffmann, Lord Hope of Craighead, Lord Hutton and Lord Millett) 11 March 1999. WHEN CONSIDERING whether to make an adoption order under s 6 of the Adoption Act 1976, the court should not, in determining whether the child's welfare called for adoption, ignore benefits which would result solely from a change in immigration status. Michael Harrison QC. David Jones (Blake Lapthorn) for the appelsive obiter dicta" in relation to lants; Ashley Underwood (Transury

NOT NEW to The Complete Lyrics of Noël Coward, and undoubtedly true, "Even Clergymen Are Naughty Now and Theu" (On with the Dance, 1925) is not as well known as it might be. (The greatest such gem is "Time Will Tell", cut from several shows.) As for the clergy,

WORDS CHRISTOPHER HAWTREE

ken, n. and v.

a week goes by / In which some one doesn't die. / So we really mustn't grumble Douglas Byng and Ernest very much." One can pic-Thesiger sang: "There's not ture this harmonising vicar

the cup of duty to the very brim / Ideas may sometimes swim / Into our ken". Curiously, ken - with тару Енгореал едиічаlents and defined by Johnson as "view; reach of sight" - is seemed rare by the OED, when it was surely given currency by Kenneth Horne's wireless show,

and curate: "though we fill

GAZETTE

tone, 54; Mr Charles Pick,

BIRTHS. **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

IN MEMORIAM

LASSOW: Hilda. In loving memo-ry of my wonderful mother who left me last year. She was such a bright light and I miss her more than words can say. From her loving daughter

Announcements for BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In emoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette notices are charged at £10 (VAT extra). | gia, 57; Mr Alan Opie, bari-

BIRTHDAYS

Mr George Benson, singer and jazz guitarist, 56: Mr Desmond Browne MP, 47; Miss Betty Callaway, iceskating trainer, 71; Miss Sheila Cameron QC, Vicar General of the Province of Canterbury, 65; Mr Brian Hanrahan, broadcaster, 50: Mr David Ingman, former Chairman, British Waterways Board, 71; The Very Rev Lawrence Jackson, Provost Emeritus of Blackburn, 73; Dr Harry Kay, former Vice-Chancellor, Exeter University, 80; Mr Werner Klemperer, actor, 80; Lord Lloyd-Webber, composer, 51; Mr Peter McEvoy, golfer, 46; Mr Karl Malden, actor, 86; M Marcel Marceau, mime artist, 76; Mr Andrew Morris, High Commissioner to Tonga, 60; Mr Stephen Nash, ambassador to Geor-

former managing director, Heinemann, 82; Sir Lynden Pindling, former prime minister of the Bahamas, 69; Professor William Ritchie Vice-Chancellor, Lancaster University, 59; Mr Paul Rogers, actor, 82; Mr Paul Schockemöhle, showjumper, 54; Mr William Shatner, actor, 68; Mr Stephen Soudheim, composer and lyricist, 69; Professor Sir Colin Spedding. chairman, UK Register of Organic Food Standards Board, 74; Lord Stokes, former president, British Leyland, 85; Miss Mary Tamm, actress, 49; Mr Leslie Thomas, writer, 68: Professor Sir Leslie Turnberg, chairman, Specialist Training Authority, 65; Miss Fanny Waterman, pianist and teacher, 79: Professor David Watson, Director, University of Brighton, 50.

ANNIVERSARIES Births: Sir Anthony van

Dyck, painter, 1599. Deaths: Thomas Carew, poet, 1639; Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, writer, 1832. On this day: the National Gallery in London was founded by the purchase of 38 pictures from J.J. Angerstein, 1824; an attempt was made to abduct Princess Anne in the Mall, London, 1973. Today is the Feast Day of St Basil of Ancyra, St Benvenuto of Osimo, St Deogratias, St Nicholas Owen, St Nicholas von Flüe and St. Paul of Narbonne.

LECTURES

Royal Academy of Arts. at the Society of Antiquaries. London W1: MaryAnne Stevens, "Monet's Perception of Modernity", 1pm.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

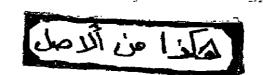
The Prince of Wales, Pairon,

the Royal Navy and Royal Marines Ethiopian Challenge 1999 Expedition, attends a ption in aid of the expedition. The Princess Royal. Patron, the Butler Trust, attends the Annual Award Cere mony at Buckingham Palace; opens Hill Homes' new nursing home, Bridgeside Lodge in Wharf Road, London N1; and, as Patron, Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, attends the launch of a new biography of Gerald Durrell at Harper-Collins, Fulham Palace Road, London SW7.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD The Household Cavalry Mount

ed Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; F Company Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Scots Guards,

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.



You've always got a friend in New Hampshire

I WAS intending this week to write about some exasperation or other of modern American life

when Mrs Bryson (who is, may I say, a dear woman) brought me a cup of coffee, read the first few lines off the computer screen. muttered. "Bitch, bitch, bitch", and shuffled off. "Pardon, my dewy English

rose?" I called "You're always complaining in

"But the world needs righting, my luscious, cherry-cheeked daughter of Boadicea," I rejoined tranquilly. "Besides, complaining

TH

"Complaining is all you do." Well, excuse me, but not quite. I believe that on these very pages I once wrote a few words of praise for American garbage disposal units, and I clearly recall commending our local post office for providing me with a free doughnut on Customer Appreciation Day. But perhaps she had a point.

There are many wonderful things about the United States of America that deserve praise -

the Bill of Rights, the Freedom of Information Act and free bookmatches are three that leap to mind - but none is more outstanding than the friendliness

of the people.

When we moved to this little town in New Hampshire, people received us as if the one thing that had kept them from total happiness up to that point was the absence of us in their lives. They brought us cakes and pies and bottles of wine. Not one of them said: "So you're the people who paid a fortune for the Smith place", which I believe is the traditional greeting in England. Our next-door neighbours, upon learning that we were intending to go out to eat, protested that it was too dreary to dine in a strange restaurant on your first

extra mouths were the most trifling of burdens. When word got round that our furniture was on a container ship making its way from Liverpool to

Boston, evidently by way of Port

night in a new town and insisted

that we come to them for dinner

there and then, as if feeding six

Said, Mombasa and the Galápagos Islands, and that we were temporarily without anything to sleep on, sit on or eat from, a stream of friendly strangers (many of whom I have not seen since) began traipsing up the walk with chairs, lamps,

tables, even a microwave oven. It was dazzling, and it has remained so. At Christmas last year we went to England for 10 days and returned home late at night and hungry to find that a neighbour had stocked the fridge with both essentials and goodies, and filled vases with fresh flowers. This sort of thing happens all the time.

Recently, I went with one of my children to a local college basketball game. We arrived just before game time and joined a queue at one of the ticket windows. After a minute a man carne up to me and said: "Are you waiting to buy tickets?"

No, I wanted to reply, I'm standing here to make the line more impressive, but of course all I said was: "Yes, I am."

he said and thrust two tickets at me. My immediate thought, born of years of stupidly misreading situations, was that he was a tout and that there must be a catch.

"How much?" I said warily. "No, no, you can have them. For free. We can't go to the game, you see." He indicated a car outside, with the motor running and a woman sitting in the passenger seat.
"Really?" I said. "Well, thank

you very much." And then I was struck by a thought_"Did you make a special trip here to give away two tickets?

"They were going to go to

waste otherwise," he said apologetically. "Enjoy the game."
I could go on and on about this

sort of thing - about the young man who returned my son's lost wallet with nearly all his summer's wages in it and wouldn't take a reward; about the employees of the cinema who go out if it starts to rain and roll up all the windows of cars parked along nearby streets on the sumption that at least some of

them will belong to cinema customers who don't know it is raining; how after the wife of the local police chief lost her hair during chemotherapy treatment every member of the force had his head shaved to raise money for a cancer charity, and to make the chief's wife feel less conspicuous.

That people leave their cars unlocked and the windows open tells you something more about the town, of course. The fact is, there is no crime here. People will casually leave a \$500 bicycle propped against a tree and go off to do their shopping. If someone

the victim would run after the thief shouting: "Could you please return it to 32 Wilson Avenue when you've finished? And watch

out for the third gear - it sticks." No one locks anything. I remember being astounded by this on my first visit, when an estate agent took me out to look at houses (and there's another thing - estate agents in America know how to stand up and move around) and she kept leaving her car unlocked, even when we went into a restaurant for lunch and even though there was a portable phone on the seat and some shopping in the back.

At one of the houses she discovered she had brought the wrong key. "Back door 'll be unlocked," she announced confidently, and it was. I subsequently realised that there was nothing unusual in this. We know people who go away on holiday without locking their doors, don't know where their house key is, aren't even sure whether they still have one. Now you might reasonably

wonder why, then, this is not a

thief's paradise. There are two reasons, I believe. First, there is no market for stolen goods here If you sidled up to anyone in New Hampshire and said, "Wanna buy a car stereo?". the person would look at you as if you were off your head and say, "No, I already have a car stereo." Then they would report you to the police and here is the second thing - the

police would come and shoot you But, of course, the police don't shoot people here because they don't need to, because there is no crime. It is a rare and beartwarming example of a virtuous circle. We have grown used to this now, but when we were still new in town and I expressed wonder about it all to a woman who grew up in New York City but has lived here for 20 years, she laid a hand on my arm and said, as if imparting a great secret: "Honey, you're not in the real world any longer. You're in New Hampshire."

Notes from a Big Country by Bill Bryson is published by Doubleday, price £16.99

Stalking is a crime which can be terrifying and can destroy a victim's life. So why would anyone make it up? By Dr Raj Persaud

Stalking out of the mind's shadows

woman claimed she was being terrorised by a stalker called "The Poet", who bombarded her with threatening letters in rhyme. A butcher's knife arrived from him at Christmas; he cut her blocks at her home; he even ab-false victims happily, even gleefully, ducted her, stabbing her in the back. come forward.

When she was found mailing letters from "The Poet" to herself, the middle-aged American woman confessed that he had never existed.

the first claim of false stalking to be made. But now new research from Australia suggests that as many as 10 per cent of stalking claims may

"False Victimisation Syndrome" is just one of a new set of psychiatric disorders that has joined illnesses such as cancer, which are favourites among those who set out to dupe doctors. The motivation of the "pseudovictims" can seem mysterious, but most psychologists believe the behaviour is attention-seeking, the only way an isolated individual has of obtaining sympathy.

In their paper in the British Journal of Psychiatry, Australian psychiatrists Dr Michele Pathé and colleagues, examined 12 individuals who had falsely claimed to be victims of stalking. Significantly, none was in a stable relationship, a stark contrast with the true victims that the Australian doctors saw in their specialist clinic. This strongly suggests that it is the enlistment of help and support from others that drives the need to claim you are in danger.

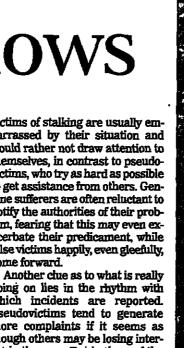
According to psychologists, true

or four years, one victims of stalking are usually embarrassed by their situation and would rather not draw attention to themselves, in contrast to pseudovictims, who try as hard as possible to get assistance from others. Genuine sufferers are often reluctant to notify the authorities of their problem, fearing that this may even exphone line; he threw concrete accretate their predicament, while

going on lies in the rhythm with which incidents are reported. Pseudovictims tend to generate This case, reported in 1984, was more complaints if it seems as though others may be losing interest in the case. But in three of the 12 cases reported from Australia the victims had suffered genuine stalking in the past, and had as a result become hypersensitive to a possible recurrence, seeing stalking in the blameless actions of others.

In six of the 12 cases Dr Pathé describes, the cause of the false claims was in fact a paranoid delusion about being followed, which the psychotic had incorporated into their fantasy life, perhaps because paranoia about stalking, fuelled by media reports, is currently so widespread. Yet the public fear of stalking is often based on a false picture generated by the media, which focuses on celebrity stalking, where dis-

turbed fans are usually involved. In cases involving ordinary members of the public, it is much more common for any stalking to be done by someone already fairly well known to the victim. Ironically, in one case reported by Dr Pathé the false victim of stalking was in fact a stalker - the false claim seemed to be an attempt to pre-empt the vic-





A new study suggests about ten per cent of reported stalking incidents are fictitious, the only way some isolated individuals can get attention

bizarre case from the US where a stalker took out an injunction against a victim, to stop the person following the stalker.

This begins to make psychological sense if you see stalkers as people so obsessed with their victims that they are unable to get thoughts of their quarry out of their minds, even when they may want to. In a sense, they themselves feel trapped by their targets.

However complex the problem of telling the genuine from the false in the weird world of stalking, one salient fact is incontestable: the time and energy devoted to investigating false claims takes away precious and increasingly meagre

tim's complaint. This echoes another resources from genuine crimes and videotape placing a teddy bear in her who has ended a relationship. Altervictims. But even when the authorities suspect they have a pseudovictim on their hands, the problem of how to confront the issue with the perpetrator can be a difficult one.

In another famous US case, a woman filed 60 complaints over six months, claiming that she had found underwear in her house with red hearts drawn on in lipstick, and that she had suffered break-ins and had found blood-soaked teddy bears left above her garage entrance so they would fall on those closing the door. One was found in her baby's cot. After several press conferences held by the victim, where she com-

garage. It transpired that the motivation was an attempt to make living in her house so uncomfortable that it would force her reluctant husband to agree to move.

In 1995, Cyndy Garvey, the ex-wife of a famous baseball player, reported a number of stalking events to the Los Angeles police. After numerous phone calls pleading for help, she went to them with a black eye and damaged nose. It later emerged that she had in fact been harassing her ex-husband and an ex-boyfriend. She confessed that she manufactured the stalking incidents to exact

revenge against her ex-boyfriend. This is a common motivation - to the local police, she was caught on inflict vengeance against a loved one

natively an ex-partner may be galvanised into protecting the "victim" from a mysterious anonymous threat, and so fictitious claims of being stalked can connect you with someone who was not otherwise likely to return.

Dr Pathé and her colleagues suggest a sympathetic approach which acknowledges that false victims in most cases are distressed and disturbed individuals. Dr Kris Mohandie, a police psychologist at the Los Angeles Police Department who specialises in False Victimisation Syndrome, explains that their approach is to state to the pseudovictim that "events did not occur as you told us", but then to allow a face-saving exit for the perpetrators by portraying the falsehood as a "cry for help". After all, seeking a victim's role as the only way of achieving a sense of personal identity suggests something fundamentally wrong with their psychological development

But perhaps the cause also partly lies in a society so obsessed by the cult of celebrity that anyone who is anyone must have their own stalker - the ultimate status accessory; the same society where assuming the role of a victim is increasingly the only way to get any attention.

Dr Raj Persaud is a consultant psychiatrist at the Maudsley Hospital in south London

The dyslexic rasta jailbird turned dub-reggae poet activist

plained about the lack of interest of

Continued from page I wheelchairs saying: Why don't you write more about black women in wheelchairs?" Gradually you understand that he's something of a community hero. Posters of him clooking like Lenny Kravitz) appear in shop windows. The British Dyslexia Association put his picture on postcards ("He finds it difficult to cope with the word/ But it's never stopped his voice being heard"). There's even a brief, respectful hagiography about him, written for children and illustrated in pastels, like the life of Christ or Nelson Mandela. His role as black spokesman and political poet was recently crystallised by a single work a poem called "What Stephen Lawrence has Taught Us",

indictment of things even government enquiries can't ameliorate. It starts and ends with the line "We know who the killers are".

"The poem," said Zephaniah, "is about how we sit and watch the academics and super-cops trying to define institutionalised racism, while black people continue to die in police custody, or emptying out their pockets in the street, or are killed without there being any killers. It's like, we're trying to define racism, but there they are, we know who they are. I think you can genuinely tap into what people feel and what they think is not being expressed."

It sealed his reputation. "The day after it came out, a busload of several things: a poet who is also an to put it into books at all?"

People were walking around in the street saying. We know who the killers are'.'

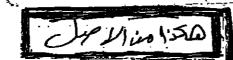
In other words, Benjamin, you've become the People's Poet. How want to talk about it. I've always refused to talk to the press about it. But there's a banner down the road saying 'Benjamin Zephaniah for Poet Laureate'. Little old ladies come up and say. You are the people's laureate, you don't need that job. You wrote that poem about Stephen Lawrence and it moved me'." Mr Zephaniah is, he says, a "griot", a Jamaican word that means

commissioned by Channel 4, a chilly kids went past me and they shouted actor; a musician; an alternative indictment of things even governout, 'We know who the killers are!'. newscaster; a political commentator. newscaster, a political commentator. There's no English equivalent, though a troubadour with a satiric bent might come close. It's a frustration for Zephaniah, who left Britain three years ago to recite his verse about the Laureateship? "I don't in places where they'd understand such things. "I had this yearning to perform where this tradition was very much alive, and where I wasn't is not an especially accomplished always being asked 'What is the poet que poetry, he's a dozen other always being asked What is the poet's role in society?' and 'Why are you so political?" and 'Are you a failed actor?' When I perform in the townships of South Africa, and in India and Pakistan, they think of poetry first and foremost as being oral. In fact, they ask me: Why do you have

Zephaniah has a novel for child-ren, entitled Face, out in August, his love poetry anthology out in September and a new volume of angry political verse, Too Block, Too Strong, out next year. He's devel-oping a children's television series for Granada and planning to go on tour with a band. He is amazingly busy, energetic and passionate. If he things at once - a voice of the community; a hero to disadvantaged young blacks; an asker of awkward questions; a happy rapper.
"Tm at home in any city," he says,

in his cool, travellin'-man way. How fortunate for east Londoners to have such a "griot" in their midst.







To be to there is need

Miller Pramar school

diameter than

When two heads are better than one

FAMILY AFFAIR

Amrit and Rabindra Kaur Singh, 33, are identical twins and work together as artists in the Wirral on Merseyside. Their critically acclaimed paintings - always done in tandem - use intricate detail in modernising the classical Indian miniature tradition, and include a recent portrayal of Diana, Princess of Wales, as a Hindu goddess with six arms



Amrit Kaur Singh

indy and I share the same room. We've got single beds on opposite sides of the room. So we are together all night and most of the day. We have identical wardrobes, right down to hair-bands and ribbons, so whoever gets up first opens up the cupboard and sees what needs ironing. The one who is up takes one set of clothes downstairs and leaves the other set behind. Then whoever is still in bed knows what we are wearing that day.

We make a point of dressing identically not because we are freakish or faddish. In terms of our art it is a political statement. It is part of our image as artists. When we were at college, the be-all and end-all of modern art was to express individualism. It was the same at school, where we were put in different classes, even though best friends were always allowed to sit together. The official line seems to be that twins are better off brought up individually. But that did not fit in with us as Asians or as twins.

On the Asian front, this idea of individuality is quite an alien concept. We focus on family. There is no such thing as "I" or "me". Equally, tutors could not understand how as twins we cheek. Over the years, Amrit's has were inspired by the same Indian miniaturist tradition and produced very similar art. There is this fear among people who do not understand the relationship between twins. They think that because you are similar physically, or in action, dress or hobbies, you are not two individuals. There is a feeling in the art world that this is not bealthy. An examiner in our final examinations asked us whether we had ever tried to be different. People were always asking us that question. It brought home to us the prejudice people have towards who we are. We are not trying to copy each other - we are just being who we are.

We even get irritated now if people can tell us apart. We think that if we are going to be twins we should do it properly. So when people call me Rabindra, I find it quite funny. We answer to both names anyway - it saves a lot of time. But there are differences. My sister is much neater and more organised in her work. She is more of a perfectionist. She is also more bubbly in company than me.

The only time we are apart on a regular basis is when my sister goes to

illness in the family, and someone was needed to look after that person. I also took up flute lessons, which was the first thing we did differently. Rabindra always wanted to learn the piano, so now she plays that. But we go to the same teacher for lessons, one after another, so we get back in sync again.

The prospect that one day we may not be together is difficult. Marriage is highly valued in our culture - it's arranged by the family. I don't think one of us would marry and the other would not. In an ideal world it would be nice if we could marry twins. The only reason being that they would be two people who were close, so the foursome would be close. For myself, I think there may be more valuable or stronger relationships than the twin relationship - between a mother and her children, or perhaps between

e do look identical, but I would not say we are identical in every way. There have been periods in at the moment we look like sisters. We both have a beauty spot on the right grown more prominent than mine. So when we go out, I'll pencil mine in. Only one person has been cheeky enough to smudge it with their finger to see who is telling the lie.

I remember that when we were at school, Amrit had a dental appointment. At that time, the teachers insisted on putting us in different classes. So I went to Amrit's class to say she would be late. I was just walking in and the teacher, thinking I was Amrit, started to tell me off for being late. I let her carry on, and she told me to face the blackboard until after morning prayers. When she turned me around I said, "Miss, I'm Bindy, not Amrit", which was a bit naughty. She just said, "You stupid girl".

Actually, I would enjoy being twins more if we were really identical. But you cannot fix some things. Amrit has a thinner jaw and face than me. I'm rounder. It's not about who eats more chocolate - though I always eat more than her. It is in the bone structure of the face. The rest of our bodies are very similar. Some people cannot pick it out, but it is obvious to us.

In our work there are differences. karate lessons three times a week. I I'm a bit more patient. Amrit wants to used to go as well, but there was an get jobs done. But Amrit has tried to



Indian Summer At Dhigpal Nivas', 1995, by Amrit and Rabindra Kaur Singh Twin Studio Collection

neater. Now you can hardly tell our work apart, whereas 10 years ago it would have been easy. Amrit also does some things better than me. She is more imaginative, better at designing motifs and patterns straight from her head. So I try to emulate her in that respect.

Secrets between us are impossible. and a member of the family asked me to buy a CD for Amrit. It was Jesus Christ Superstar, the sound-track. We were going to a meeting in Liverpool, and I told her we would have to go early because I had to pick something

going to buy that CD, aren't you?" What could I say? It is impossible to keep things from one another.

In fact, we have never bought each other birthday presents or cards. It would seem silly, like buying presents for yourself. We get very upset if people don't buy us the same presents, especially when it is clothes or A few weeks ago, it was our birthday jewellery. If they buy only one of something, we have to exchange it or buy another.

> The longest we have been apart was when Amrit was in hospital for a week. It was quite depressing. I missed her company and worried

catch up with me, to make her style up. She immediately said: "You're about her being ill. When you have spent your life together and always shared the same bedroom, it is hard.

When it comes to death. I suppose the ideal is to die together so neither person suffers. That isn't just true for twins like us. It is relevant for husbands and wives, brothers and sisters. But it's not going to happen like that. It will be saddest for the person left behind. They will have the heartache.

Entwined is on display at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

A desperate plight for old and young

Caring for an elderly relative is no easy task, and many find the strain too great. By Jack O'Sullivan

MARY STANSBIE, 78, had been every day," says Denise Mal-dead in her bed for up to three colm, of the Carers' Association. dead in her bed for up to three weeks when her body was discovered by a district nurse. "Help me" and "No help" were scrawled on her bedroom walls.

Her case sounds like a tragic account of an elderly person dying alone, bereft of friends or relatives. You imagine her on her own in a high-rise flat, her absence unnoticed. Yet Mrs Stansbie died in her family home in Smethwick, West Midlands. She lived there with her daughter and two granddaughters. Apparently, they had not realised she was dead.

Put so bluntly, the story seems as bizarre as it is sad, a tale of extraordinary suffering rather than a comment on everyday life. What happened to the family ties that provide comfort in people's final days?

Yet the inquest last week into her death highlighted common problems when elderly people seek sanctuary with their families. Ms Stansbie suffered from dementia. Her daughter said she often took to her room for weeks, armed with biscuits and other food. The breakdown in relationships which took place in this instance is not unusual.

Take Thomas, from Yorkshire, as an example. He had to give up his job to look after his elderly mother, who was paralysed and unable to speak. So she was totally dependent, but able to give him little feedback for his efforts. He had no break for four years. "He rang to say that he had hit his mum out of sheer frustration," recalls Jill Harrison, who runs the Carers' Helpline. "He had hit her quite badly, and felt dreadful when he rang us. He was worried about how far he would take it." '

Resentment can poison life with a vulnerable old person. Whereas, in the past, daughters who still do most of the work - might have been at home in any case, these days looking after an elderly relative requires a dramatic change in lifestyle. Suddenly, the hospital rings to say that your mother is being discharged, and she cannot manage at home. She needs to stay with you. Yet she could be a person for whom you

never felt much affection. Ms Harrison describes a caller who had been abroad for years, and was told by social services that her mother needed residential care. "Since her mother lived alone, the house would be sold to pay the fees. But that was money the daughter had been hoping would revive her business abroad. So she returned to Britain to look after her mother, and became very resentful. She told her mother, who had had a stroke, that she did not intend to be around all the time; if she had

fall, then tough." That might sound like an uncaring statement. Yet those who look after old people grow desperate. "Looking after someone can include never getting a good night's sleep, and being on call 24 hours a day,

"You may never be able to take a holiday. It can be impossible to attend family events such as one to look after Mum. Couples may also not agree about an with them. A woman may be keen to look after her own mum and dad, but not her partner's stepfather.

"There can be a serious money problem," says Jill Harrison. "A carer will say to us, "I have to live on £38.70 a week invalid care allowance, yet Mum has a good pension from Dad and an attendance allowance, but will not give me more than £10 a week for food. I'm getting into debt.' We can't condone the misuse of elderly people's benefits, but it does happen. Money can get very tight."

Ginny Jenkins, director of Action on Elder Abuse, encases. She leafs through a log of calls to the charity's helpline.

'He hit his mum out of frustration. He was worried about how far he would take it'

old mother who provided a home for her alcoholic daughter in return for being looked after. The daughter had been on a drinking binge, wasn't feeding the mother, and wouldn't let anyone into the flat."

Professionals warn against painting a picture of widespread neglect, although there is little research to establish its real prevalence. The experts distinguish between the rare sadistic types, who mistreat elderly relatives because of personality problems, and the majority of abusers, whose behaviour is a reaction to stress.

There are potential legal remedies. The Government is considering introducing protective legislation for vulnerable adults. The 1998 Family Act could also be activated to protect old people. Designed to deal with domestic violence, it allows a perpetrator to be excluded from a property even if

he or she owns it. However, in the main the answer lies in providing better support for those who do an extraordinary task. If you are desperate, the helplines all say, walk away before you do something dreadful. Any carer can ask social services to assess their ability and resources to do the job - a job that carries many of the burdens of child

The Corers' Line is 0345 573369; The Action on Elder Abuse helpline is 0800 731 4141

Millennium Bug bites children hardest

Primary school children worry about computers failing precisely because they understand their power. By Sophie Radice

AS A child my brother used to cry in bed at night about the possibility of those old Seventies despots Pol Pot and Idi Amin coming to England and killing all his family. We could reassure him, with some confidence, that we thought they were both quite preoccuand start worrying about some-Craven's Newsround

Now my own son, aged eight and temperamentally rather about the biggest threat to the world as we now know it- the Millennium Bug

"Do you realise that all the traffic lights will stop, so all the cars will crash into each other. and the hosnitals won't even work any more? There will be no electricity or heating supplies or water, so everything will be cold and dark. No shops wil!

There will be nothing left, Murn, can you understand that?" Another of his friends, who

is slightly less apocalyptic, is far more concerned with the specific threat of planes falling from the sky, and tells me about the how whole towns will be depied with other things - and stroyed on New Year's Eve. He after a while he would move on is going to try to make an underground cave for his thing else he had seen on John friends and family. "You can come if you want, too," he says kindly. Yet another child says that he wants to go and stay on like his uncle, talks incessantly a Scottish island and stand on a hill and watch as all systems fail and the lights go out on the

Primary school teachers say that they have noticed a general feeling of anxiety from schoolchildren, while Sony Play-Station, Sega Megadrive and PC companies report an increase in calls from children

work, so there will be no food. effect of the Millennium Bug on their machines.

"I think there is a worry that their parents are not doing anything, or simply don't know enough to be able to deal with it, and the kids are trying to get some information for themselves," says a Sony spokesperson. Hamley's toy shop is selling a large, hairy spider-like monster called "The Millennium Bug" which has been a huge success, perhaps because parents are trying to lighten their children up by turning their anxieties into a funny, fluffy toy, or maybe because whole issue to their parents' attention by buying the Bug and placing it on top of the computer at home.

Parents can't soothe away fears of the Millennium Bug in the same way we have been able to dismiss ghosts and specifically concerned with the monsters, because it is difficult

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Children are more computer-literate

when the time comes. I have tried to concentrate on the radio programmes that have geeky-voiced computer experts predicting Armageddon - "find a point as far away from a nuclear plant as is humanly possible, buy lots of blankets and stay close to your elderly par-

Billy Griffiths children are hoping to bring the to know what will really happen ents". Try as I may, all I can do is hope that my overdraft may be wiped off all known bank records, and imagine the kind of day when adverse weather

> chaos and stop everyone from going to school. Adults must seem like the dull dolts of children's adven-

conditions cause a welcome

ture stories who never seem to understand the danger that of sociology at the Unieveryone in the community is in, even after the gang of children have thwarted the loony professor's plan to take over the world. The trouble is that I Bug is particularly intercan't really offer reassurance, but instead mumble something about "experts working on it as we speak". "Working on what? the eight-year-olds all say, wanting to know more, to get the technical details. These children are of course

far more computer-literate than parents like me, who are stuck on a few useless commands on Windows 95 and don't really want to know much more, thank you very much. Children at my son's primary school use computers as soon as they start nursery at the age of three. I had to go back to the PC shoo because I was having difficulty controlling the mouse

· Cary Cooper, professor versity of Manchester Institute of Science, says that children's relationship to the Millennium esting because they are the computer generation. "So much of their education and leisure come from the computer. They talk about it and. share information and are unfazed by linking up with a classroom in Africa or China on the Net, Computers have been pre-

part of their future. "I think they overhear adults worrying or joking about the Millennium Bug and it concerns them not only that their parents are offering no solutions, but that the credibility of computers in general is being

sented to them as this great in-

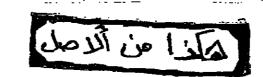
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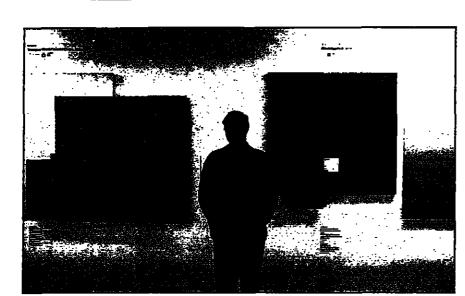
Even without Blue Peter



do seem to have a deeper understanding of just how much our society is controlled by computers and just how much we all rely on them. The threat of destabilising this control naturally enough evokes a response that is close to religious hysteria. My children are godless, having been taught even less then I was about religious faith, and so this millennium's flood, fire and pestilence will come not from a divine source, but from the breakdown of the powerful and mysterious force of computers. On second thoughts, maybe I should reserve a space in that

underground bunker for me and my family, just in case.





The shock of the view

ertigo! named after the 1958 film by Alfred Hitchcock, is a cliff-hanger of an architectural show in Glasgow, and a requiem to the 20th century. Ten big, brash projects make it

clear that size matters. Shanghai's 100-storey money market tower will scrape the sky, while in Hong Kong a mountain has been lopped off next to the harbour to create the world's biggest duty free shop, at Chek Lap Kok airport. The world's single biggest structure, the Millennium Dome at Greenwich, is big enough to hold 75,000 people at one time. And when all 50 cinemas in Ontario, California, screened the launch of Titonic, 1 per cent of the total number of movie-goers viewing it in the world were there.

Not all of this architecture-onsteroids is great, or even designerlabel. But all 10 projects have either been recently completed or are in progress. "It's not a Utopian city of the future, but a microcosm of life as it's actually happening," says Rowan Moore. And that's what induces a faint feeling of unease.

The way Moore carves up the world vertiginously is to represent universal themes with scale models and photos: Culture (the new Tate at Bankside), Politics (Norman Foster remodelling the Reichstag); International Space (Hong Kong airport, by Foster again, with the world's first Minimalist airport lounge, by John Pawson for Cathay Pacific) and Public Space (Yokohama Port Terminal, by Foreign Office Las Vegas resort, by Berkus Studios) Kitagate high-rise towers by Kazuyo superfluous?" Clearly not.

Sejima, and the theme of Money is represented by the Shanghai financial centre, by KPF. For Spectacle, the Greeenwich Dome is shown adjacent to Artificial Nature - the landscaped gardens in Duisberg Nord, Germany, by Latz. Both projects turn industrially polluted soil into pleasurable places. Shopping is a vast mall at Ontario Mills, California, by Communication Arts.

Vertigo! looks at architecture beyond the buildings, as industrially polluted wastelands are cleaned up and reclaimed, while elsewhere in the world vast areas are being concreted over for the leisure industry ings culturally and socially, not with - posh words for sex and shopping, according to Moore. The exhibition begins in an Iden-

tikit white cube gallery space that shows the conversion of the power station at Bankside, by the Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron, into scale models, photographs, pull the new Tate. The young architects Caruso St John's transformed the cavernous Victorian Old Fruitmarket in Glasgow for the Vertigo! exhibition as part of the celebrations for Glasgow City of Architecture and Design 1999. Its installation is a scaled-down version of what is happening at the Tate and all over the world, as obsolete buildings empty of machines to become galleries and exhibition centres.

The exhibition avoids the commonly made distinction between "high" and "commercial" architecture. Architects are just part of a great team of landscapers, lighting designers, engineers and "imagineers" (as they call the theme-park he had to please the sponsors. designers of these huge areas that over). Moore goes so far as to ask, is shown next to Public Housing the in the catalogue: "Are architects

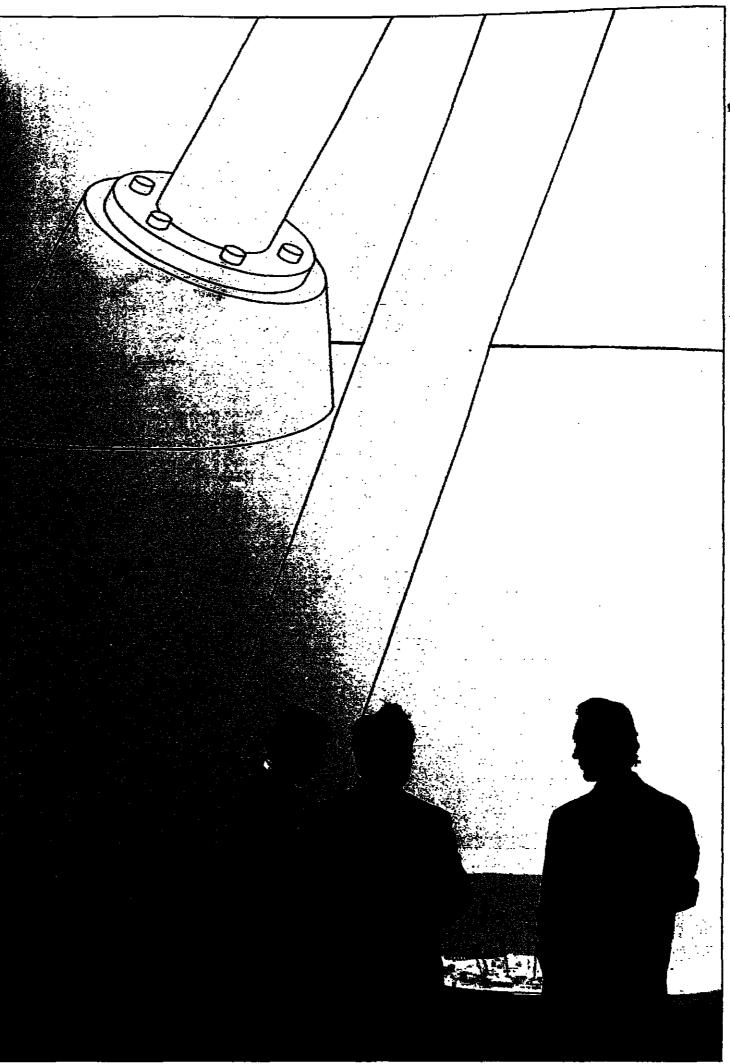
But the exhibition suggests that the clients who sponsor architects and the people who use their buildings are just as interesting. Videos and stills throughout show people in the locations.

Vertigo! is not pushing a style, like most architecture exhibitions. It tries to show buildings and their interiors in a dramatised fashion. But the disparate nature of Vertigo! makes it hard work for the visitor. Certainly it is eclectic, but the allusion to the past in familiar details .has ceased. Moore deals with buildtheir form, or niceties of architecture.

It is a polemic about industrial decay - our ability to build over it and see beyond it is awesome. Vertiginous, even. But as an exhibition it falls a bit flat, largely because the quotes and talking heads in video loops can't convey the experience of such excesses. The soaring overhead natural light in the cavernous halls of Chek Lap Kok, the way you will leave your stomach behind on the ascent to the world's tallest tower in Shanghai, the experience of standing in the Dome at Greenwich Peninsula, cannot be evoked with models and photographs.

You leave the exhibition with a screening of Clueless which Moore chose because it's a laugh about shopping. He wanted to screen Down of the Dead, a horror film set in a mall, which probably says more about his real attitude. It's just that

the Contemporary City is on until 16 May 1999 at the Old Fruitmarket, Albion Street, Glasgow G1



A drawing of the supports for the Greenwich Dome (above) and graphic blocks (top left) depicting cities and size Colin McPherson.

A fresh façade for British architecture

The new president of Riba is keen to celebrate the history of buildings, and to convince us all of the importance of good design. By Nonie Niesewand

THE BUS shelter in Eltham where Stephen Lawrence was murdered should bear a blue plaque, says Marco Goldschmied, the new president of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Structures have a meaning beyond bricks and mortar, they make a contribution to "history".

And which buildings would he knock down? All those Sixties corporate blocks on the South Bank opposite the Tate Gallery, "as far as the eye can see".

They are a reminder of our society at its greediest and most philistine," he says. "Besides, they don't sit well with Turner and Mondrian." His only other contender for a blue plaque is James Stirling's and James Gowan's University of Leicester building, "which expresses the way the building works internally on the outside".

Marco Goldschmied is 54 and for the next two years he will have the ear of politicians, the backbiting of his colleagues, and an agenda to promote British architecture at a sensitive time in its history "when the practice of architecture is about to be submerged by a wave of jargon".

But how important is Riba today? Very. Riba has 27,000 members around the world. Besides, Riba is a charity, not a trade union, so it can impartially promote architecture at a time when forces against cultural values and institutions are strong."

Even so, its role has diminished

in the last 20 years. Goldschmied blames Thatcherism, and Riba's own inertia and introversion. Since he himself is neither inert nor introverted, the august body can expect changes when his two-year term of office begins in July. The president is clear about his goals: he wants to

make architects more accessible and show both government and society what they can get up to.

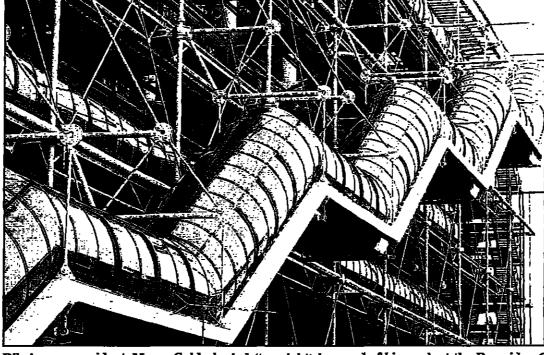
He is thrilled that the Queen's Gold Medal for Architecture was won by Barcelona, the first time it has been awarded to a city. "It's terrific that individuals and organisations that have done exceptional and relevant work to promote its artistic and scientific development are honoured. A mixture of mayors and town planners - and two of them are qualified architects."

Riba in 1999 is a bit like the BBC World Service: respected abroad but ignored at home; professional and with a reputation for integrity; a little dull, and losing audiences. But nobody should switch off. Buildings stand about for a long time and impact upon the environment, so the profession needs a strong spokesman and a strong policy-maker. But even though he has a management degree – he was project director in 1971-77 on the Pompidou Centre in Paris - Goldschmied disznisses what he calls "management speak".

Labour wants to set up an advisory body, the Architectural Commission, under the auspices of Chris Smith at the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. Some fear that the mission is to raise the quality of govchairman of English Heritage, Jocelyn Stevens - whose views are intemperate even when championing modern buildings - will apply. Marco Goldschmied wants David Steel, former leader of the Liberal De-

mocrats, to head the new body. "At long last we've got Government interested in sending representatives to find out about architecture. Now we need a politician interested in architecture."

If the new Architecture Com-



Riba's new president, Marco Goldschmied (top right) is proud of his work at the Pompidou Centre (above) and wants a blue Main photo: Martin Charles plaque for the bus shelter in Eltham where Stephen Lawrence was murdered (bottom right)

ernment buildings and those funded by government, such as New English Partnerships and the housing corporation, as well as private buildings, it needs funding. It will need to work closely with Riba and the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions.

So what is Goldschmied's message to the two relevant ministers, John Prescott at DETR, and Chris Smith? "To resist the temptation to

ment to buy votes at the next election. We're still living with a lot of crap built under the two Harolds -Macmillan and Wilson. Use your power to force the nation out of the cheapskate, quick-fix mentality of the last two decades."

The only son of a widow - his Italian father died when he was ten -Goldschmied moved from Trieste to Harrogate as a child. His passport, in the name of Marco Lorenzo Sinnott Goldschmied, attracted the atuse the issues of the built environ- tention of the xenophobic passport

operators, an experience that contributed to his awareness of racism. It may also be part of the reason why he became involved with Stephen Lawrence's family. Stephen wanted to be an architect and in 1998 Marco Goldschmied introduced an award under £500,000. "Riba should help anyone of any race, creed or gender who wishes to attain the necessary

standards." He studied at the Architectural Association in the Sixties when Lon- he set up the Richard Rogers part-





don was swinging, and student power meant they fired their principal. Even as a student Marco exhibited signs of showmanship. Planning the annual all-night degree show party, he borrowed from the fashion grandee Diana Vreeland. "Think Pink" was the theme, and, dressed in pink flares from Carnaby Street, he got a band to play all night for £150. The band was Pink Floyd.

His first job on graduating from the AA was with Richard Rogers and

nership in 1978, with Rogers and John Young. So what does he know now that he wished he'd known when he started as an architect in 1969? "Just how devastating the demise of the GLC would be for London, so that I could have told Ken Livingstone to play it a bit more lowkey for a year or two."

Asked to identify a building for which he was responsible (as part of a team) and most proud, Marco Goldschmied chose four: the Pompidou Centre in Paris, because it's so improbable: Lloyd's Insurance building in the City, because it's so versatile; Billingsgate in east London, because of its subtlety; and Patscenter in Princeton, because it's un-American.

Saatchi & Saatchi lobbied on Goldschmied's behalf in his campaign in the run-up to the presidential elections at Riba. Just as friends, not commissioned, which shows the kind of networking that he enjoys. But he is touchy about it. "I did not have a spin doctor I worked very hard on my campaign. I was helped by three friends in council and in the profession. I toured the country; holding meetings from Exeter to Edinburgh, from Belfast to Brighton. I did my own interviews and press conferences."

His aim is to make people more aware of the importance of architecture in their lives. "Riba must work to restore the primacy of architecture and its humanising influence in our culture.Architects are like other professionals, but we must explain that magical process - the line, planes and volumes in the mind manifesting in the physical form of a room, a street, a gallery or

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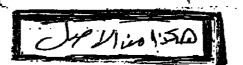
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Nonie Niesewand

A restoration drama

The story of one Umbrian church is witness to the desperate attempts to halt the destructive power of Italy's earthquakes. By Rachel Halliburton

he baptism of Constantine the Great the first Christian Roman emperor was long attributed to Pope Sylvester I.
This historically groundbreaking event was later shown to be a piece of medieval myth-making, but it is not the only legend that surrounds the early fourth-century pontiff. Indeed, a more fantastical act earned him the arguably more exotic title of "dragon-tamer".

Some time after Sylvester's death in AD335, a book called the Auren Legenda appeared, which listed the saints and their feast days and provided unorthodox accounts of their lives. Sylvester's entry detailed an encounter with a monster who was not a virgin-chomping dragon, or indeed a flame-belching dragon, but a dragon with breath so poisonous that any Roman citizen who came within exhaling distance was dead quicker than you could say the word "Listerine". The pope, assiduously collecting points for sainthood, went down to the Forum, where the dragon was spreading its deadly fog, and after declaring his belief in Christ, revived two pagan priests and calmly led the monster out of Rome, thus ridding the city of its halitosis nightmare

More than eight centuries after Pope Sylvester's death, Maestro Binelli finished building a church consecrated to his memory in the Italian town of Bevagna. San Silvestro, completed in 1195, is a strikingly beautiful piece of Romanesque architecture, with a barrel-vaulted ceiling, dramatically raised chancel and starkly simple interior, all of which combine to make it a gem. As the story of its saint shows, however, religion has a habit of fusing elements more at home with myth into its history, and this, tragically and ironically, has proved to be the case with the church.

Earthquakes, along with floods and thunderbolts, are very much the building which is seriously comprostuff of Old Testament legend, but in 1997 and 1998 a series of tremors in it's upsetting." Italy left behind an all-too-prosaic catalogue of disasters - which in- storers is gargantuan - not just of approximately 1,400 other churches in Umbria alone, severe damage to San Silvestro itself.

Stephen Eddy is the programme director for the World Monuments Fund (WMF) in Italy, and has the job of maintaining links with both local and national Italian authorities in order to determine which projects the fund takes up. As the eyes of the world focused on the apocalyptic devastation of the works of Giotto and Cimabue at the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi, Eddy was touring Umbria, helping his organisation in the almost impossible task of selecting which of the many other beautiful and historically important churches it should help resurrect. He was surrounded by chaos. Umbria was also dealing with the human tragedies caused by the

seismic impacts - the Assisi earthquake alone had made 30,000 people temporarily homeless, while several people were on medication to reduce the nervous strain of coping with their treacherously shifting landscape. After a long search he reached Bevagna - described by Sir Patrick Fairweather of the British/ Italian Society as "an exquisite example of a nearly complete vision of medieval architecture" - and it was here, in the form of San Silvestro. that he found the WMF's first postearthquake project.

"Earthquake damage is a basic and fundamental attack on a building's structure," says Eddy. "The most serious damage normally hap-pens at the parts of the building that are most rigid, so when the church starts swaying backwards and for-wards there's damage where the naves and the transepts meet [at the building's main intersection), and the façade frequently detaches from the body of the church. This was what happened at the Basilica of St Francis of Assisi. The façade became insecure, and the vaults immediately behind it collapsed.

"San Silvestro, however, is even more complicated. During the earthquake, it turned clockwise on its foundations and filted back. The back right-hand corner of the building split open and a quarter of the apse opened up. Two supporting columns on the right-hand side of the nave were so contorted that eventually they splintered." To look at pictures of San Silvestro

before and after the earthquake brings home the full force of the tremor's power. Indeed, stand in any church and imagine the columns dancing and the walls splitting open, and you will have some small idea of what the Italians endured from the middle of 1997 through to early 1998. Eddy is emotional when he describes San Silvestro today: "The columns are now completely reinforced and bound together with straps and with splints. You see this mised - all full of scaffolding - and The scale of the task facing re-

physically but also intellectually. The high-profile controversy that art and architecture restoration continually court world-wide has led to increasing debate about which techniques to use - a process well illustrated in the art world by the ongoing restoration of Leonardo da Vinci's The Last Supper. Early restorers made the mistake of attacking the decaying painting with glue and oil, which was stripped off by Giuseppe Mazza in the 18th century before he radically repainted the masterpiece. In 1924, the most sacrilegious assault occurred when Oreste Silvestri tried to "iron" the painting with heated cylinders, in a misguided attempt to push the paint back into place. Now such attempts would be obviously unthinkable - but even so, Signora Pinin Brambilla's painstaking and subtle 21-year



Bringing the roof down: the earthquakes of 1997-98 have left the church of San Silvestro in a precarious state Brian Harris

restoration has attracted fraught San Silvestro has no frescoes or in-possible, and to use essentially debate over the centuries as to what extent she should reinterpret the gaps in the painting, and how much she should leave to the viewer's imagination. Ovid wrote in his Metamorphoses that "the skill lies in concealing the skill", and this increasingly seems an apt way of summing up the philosophy behind leading restorers' work today, in their care to avoid the unwitting vandalism of their predecessors.

Unlike the Basilica of St Francis,

dividual art works to deal with but, as Eddy points out, the history of architectural restoration has also gone through phases now denounced by experts as philistine - most recently in the Fifties. "There was a campaign by civil engineers to put reinforced concrete roof structures on all buildings, and that's been disastrous because you end up with buildings that are exceedingly topheavy. Now the accepted method of restoration is to change as little as restoration have been drawn up,

traditional materials." He explains that as well as being historically more authentic, these methods of restoration give the churches a great practical advantage, "Buildings that have been restored according to traditional building techniques - such as those with timbered roof structures - tend to be more flexible and therefore more resistant to

Although the plans for the

there is still the eternal problem of getting funds. Last year the British/ Italian Society, in conjunction with the WMF raised £30,000 towards the money already secured. But, as Sir Patrick Fairweather points out, this is only a fraction of what is needed. Eddy is optimistic, however: "One of the things our funding is going to be able to pay for is the two splintered columns. I think that's marvellous, because it's symbolic. After all – they are the things that actually hold up the church.

THIS WAS THE WEEK THAT WAS



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ago jazz history was made when Miles Davis went into the studio with brief outlines of two new tracks and completed his breathtaking Kind of Blue album. And in 1744 nursery rhyme history was made with the publication of "Baa, baa black sheep", in Tommy Thumb's Song Book by Mrs Mary Cooper.

morrow in 1928, long before children's television 2,000 youngsters queued to see a film of Robinson Crusoe at the Empire, Willesden, in Britain's first regular children's matinee The Japanese director Akira Kurosawa was born in 1910. His Seven Samurai was reincarnated as The Mognificent Seven and his Ran (to be shown on Wednesday on FilmFour) is a born-again King Lear.

Wednesday The craftsman and socialist William Morris was born, in 1834. His designs live on in curtains and wallpapers, while his wife Jane Burden lives on in the Tate's Queen Guinevere. his only oil painting.

Thursday Fifty years ago Hamlet was the first British film to win an Oscar for Best Picture, and the director, Laurence Olivier (aged 40. with dyed hair) also won an Academy Award for playing

Friday Having had his first musical job at 11 (well, he was a late starter) Beethoven died in 1827 aged 56, not long after completing "Ode to Joy"; his funeral was a national day of mourning.

Saturday Sir Arthur Bliss died, in 1975; as well as composing Miracle in the Gorbals, he was Master of the Queen's Music, which is as badly paid a job as being Poet Laureate, but more tuneful.

Sunday Pop music got a shot in the arm, and the BBC's Light Programme a kick up the burn, in 1964 when Radio Caroline, Britain's first pirate station, began broadcasting from a boat in the Channel. Later the skull-and-crossbones DJs had unmusical encounters with a boardingparty of creditors and also with a sandbank.

JONATHAN SALE

Nice music, shame about the dancing

BELLINI'S OPERAS will still be flourishing when Doug Varone's dances have long been consigned to merciful oblivion. I keep telling myself this to quieten the anger inspired by the last piece in the triple bill he brought at the weekend to the Woking Dance Umbrella. Bel Conto, he calls it, but from the ludicrous overamplification imposed on the recording, "Canned Belto" would be a more appropriate description. Luckily, at this volume Joan Sutherland and Marilyn Horne are quite unrecognisable as well as incomprehensible.

What he sets his dancers doing as accompaniment to these extracts from Norma is even more horrifying than the ignominy he inflicts on the sound-track I can only think hat it may be meant as some kind of skit on ballet, but the sloppy style of performance makes it difficult to be sure. Anyway, there are some limp grands battements, much idgeting with the hands, a lot of flat-footed slummocking around, and a couple of male

DANCE DOUG VARONE

NEW VICTORIA THEATRE WOKING



pas de deux - the one featuring short, tubby Varone and the even more thickly built, wrinkled Larry Hahn is particularly camp. Both these gentlemen are much given to grinning at the audience, so that you know they think themselves real comics.

Bellini and John Adams are onite a contrast, and I suppose that the work Varone staged to Adams's Fearful Symmetries was meant seriously, but it looked entirely vacuous as the eight dancers came on two by

two, performed a few apparently arbitrary steps, and vacated the stage for the next couple. Later there were more of them visible at once, and they speeded up a bit, but what all this had to do with the score never became clear Varone calls this piece Rise; maybe he is trying to take a rise out of us.

The opening work had been less troublesome. Titled Let's Dance, it is set to a potpourri of popular songs, including the likes of George Gershwin and Jerome Kern, recorded by Benny Goodman, Ella Fitzgerald and Woody Herman among others. So at least there was something pleasant to listen to, and occasionally the action became mildly amusing too, especially in the lugubrious duet for Merceditas Manago and Varone to "A Fine Romance". For the most part, though, these dances were brisk, brash,

energetic and empty. And to think that Dance Umbrella brought this group all the way from New York. I wouldn't cross the street, let alone the Atlantic, to see them again. JOHN PERCIVAL

A devilishly camp good time A FAR corner of the under-**OPERA**

world, crimson walls and a skylight to heaven, the distant sound of celestial trumpets and choirs of angels. But who's that snoring in the royal box? Dark, suave, moustached; a man of substance, an aristocrat; white tie and tails. Which opera has he been sleeping through? Surreptitiously be checks his programme. It's strange that it bears his name. Stranger still that he now whistles for attention, with a clutch of demons scuttling to his aid. A ladder facilitates his unseemly descent to the stage. And then you spot the tail. Mephistopheles is

calling the tune. And it's that capricious conceit that lies so squarely at the heart of English National Opera's first staging of Arrigo Boito's opera. It won't be to everyone's taste. In fact, taste doesn't come into it. Boito -Verdi's librettist on his last two masterpieces, Otello and Folstoff - was nothing if not audacious in his spirited adaptation of Goethe's Faust. The boldness (remember, this was 1868) with which he sought to knock the moral stuffing out of Goethe, to promote Mephistopheles, to exploit his wiliness, his cynicism, his potential as an irrev-

erent stand-up comic - the

MEPHISTOPHELES ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

LONDON Archie Rice of the underworld confounded all expectations of the day. That he bit off more than he could chew and more than his audience could swallow, that his fabulously tasteless score comes at you like a parody of every operatic cliché, is irresistible for the director, Ian Judge. He's a man after Menhistopheles' heart; sceptical, unsubtle, a bit of a showman. And camp? Is he ever.

Even as Mephistopheles is enjoying his regular audience with the Almighty, the heavenly host are assembling like some Fellini-esque stunt. They sport rose-tinted spectacles (seeing the light daily can play havoc with sensitive eyes) and the very latest in gold-plated haloes and wing accessories. Boito's highly innovative Prologue is purple with choral splendour and the heavy scent of incense. its climactic paean buttressed with heaven-storming extra brass. Grand opera boasts precious little that is grander But Mephistopheles is not about to take it seriously, and neither is Judge. No sooner has

the final chord died, when the heavenly host are brazenly peeling off their vestments to reveal themselves as prostitutes, punks and neo-Nazis. It is Easter Sunday in an unspecified German town and Mephistopheles (thinly disguised as a black friat, smoke seeping from beneath his cassock) is laugh-

ing all the way to the abyss. I somehow doubt that Boito ever imagined that his smoothtalking, mischief-making antihero would, in the fullness of time, collude with so kindred a spirit as Judge. Together they look on as Faust falls for the Helen of Troy nonsense; they party their way through the witches' sabbath, mindful of its silliness. The designer John Gunter and the lighting designer Simon Corder go for the tawdry look. It's the kind of production, dare I say it, that the piece so richly deserves.

And yet, for all its vulgarity, it sounds good. Alastair Miles is the pinstriped boulevardier from hell, a quartet of naked demons somersaulting to his every whim. It's a sharp and snazzy performance, characteristically well-focused vocally. David Rendall is Faust, his vocal delivery blessed with an idealistic ring. And Susan Patterson is a vocally robust, big-



Susan Patterson as Margareta

Laurie Lewis

hearted Margareta, caged like a circus animal for the "prison" aria, with Boito's sinuous and far-reaching coloratura boldly contradicting her physical confinement. But this is a big party for the ENO chorus, and, in all their guises, they were lustily effective. As witches and warlocks they came primed with balloons and party pop-

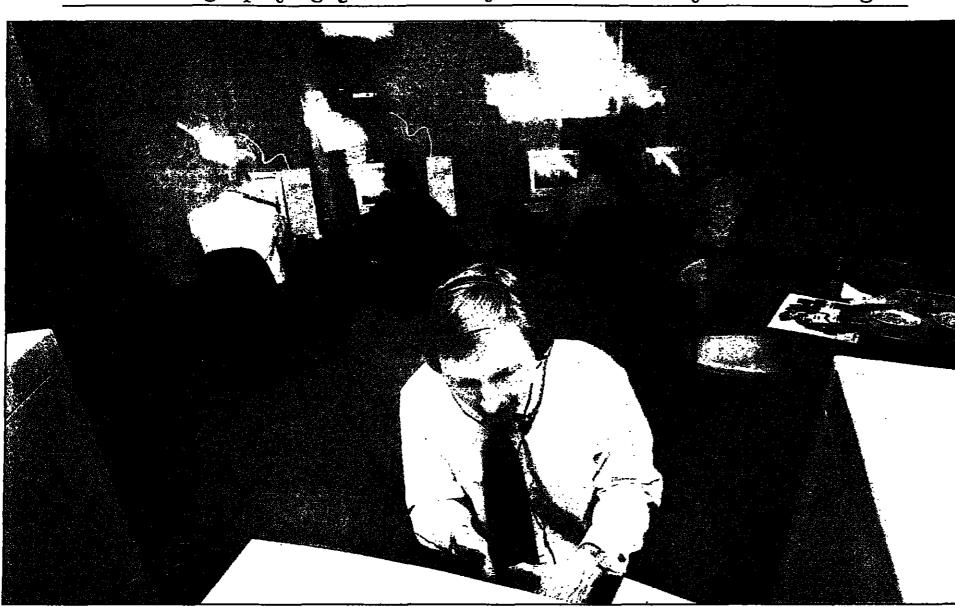
pers, though they took all their cues from the very able conductor Oliver von Dohnanyi and not from our eponymous trickster, who at one point forced his way along the front row of the stalls recklessly brandishing an illuminated baton. What the devil did he think he was playing at? **EDWARD SECKERSON**

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Game boys: members of the Berkshire Bankers and Treasurers Club at a Cybernetic Productions play group

Neville Elder

How to kill your boss and not get the sack

THE IDEA that work and play can be fast PCs at the centre of such cuss strategies. They are also given good" days of the Eighties, though, gaming sessions. Indeed, it was tics and information. that the more aggressive corporate- speculated that the seminal network exercises came to the fore. Rather than a gentle game of golf with the department manager, executives would find themselves engaged in orienteering expeditions or paintball battles in order to sharpen their teamwork skills and ability to work under pressure.

Although this may have been fine for the more energetic employee, it was not so appealing to those more used to their expense-account hunches. Realising this, Paul Flanagan, who formerly worked with Citibank and JP Morgan, decided to transplant the concept into a virtual environment. Flanagan's company, Cybernetic, uses a customised version of the 5D shoot-em-up game Quake 2 on a network of high-specification PCs to provide companies with a bonding exercise that is more accessible - and less painful – than paintball, while still providing the necessary adrenalin-

Multiplayer computer gaming is nothing new to the companies that make up the majority of Cybernetic's clientele, with the buge networks and

cause of lost working hours in the City during its popular heyday in 1995, and it was this culture that Flanagan saw as being able to provide a constructive service.

"I wanted to organise events for people from different teams and get them working together," Flanagan says. "Quake 2 is a great leveller – it relies more on mental skills and reactions, and people can just sit Quake 2 places up to 64 players in

large 3D arenas replete with buildings, passages and a variety of heavy weapons. Players can fight singly or in teams, but either way the object of the game remains simple - kill as the basics can be easily mastered in many of your opponents as possible, and try not to die. Cybernetic has customised the standard Quake 2 program with a Capture the Flag scenario, where each team must accomplish said task while defending their own flag from the enemy. The teams (usually four to eight members) are given a map, and are also given time in which to allocate roles and dis-

complementary bedfellows is noth- companies' operations proving ideal headphone/microphone headsets so ing new. It wasn't until the "greed-is- for after-hours (and during-hours) that they can give and receive tac-

Players are given a brief tutorial on now to use the game, then it's the first few games to be rather tentative as people accustom themselves to the controls, though

'It's not like the usual Ouake all-against-all mentality. If you go in there like John Wayne you are going to lose'

about half an hour's play. After that, however, it's all down to teamwork.

"If you want to be successful in our sessions, you have to work as a team," Flanagan explains. "It's not like the usual Ouake all-against-all mentality, and if you go in there like John Wayne you are going to lose. The winning teams always tend to be the ones that play together."

Alex Lancksweert, from Andersen Consulting, was initially sceptical about Cybernetic, figuring that as his team spent most of their working day in front of computers, they were unlikely to give up their evenings for especially as it was unlikely to offer the thrills of paintball.

However, after a few bectic hours

on the virtual battlefield he had changed his opinion enough to recommend the game to his team as an equally stimulating and enjoyable alternative to paintball. Lancksweert took a group of 55-40 people from England and Sweden, who had been working together "virtually" for six months but had spent little "real" time together.

"It was extremely interesting to watch the different teams operate: some would spend a great deal of time discussing defence and attack plans, while others just waded in." Lancksweert says. "The headset was a key piece of equipment. At times, the communication channels were iammed with consultants shouting instructions. On one occasion there was an eerie silence throughout the whole game and the performance of the team reflected this lack of

large, competition-driven institution to recognise the potential of computer games in training its workforce. The US Marines used a version of Doom to train infantry fire teams. Modified headlong into battle. It is common for what seemed to be a similar activity, to include real-life weapons and scenarios, Marine Doom proved an invaluable way to beta-test and refine battlefield tactics before embarking on costly real-world exercises.

The City is by no means the only

With the advent of more and more graphically lifelike games, Cybernetic is promising experiences of ever-increasing realism.

Due later this year is Quake 3: Arena, which includes avatars (ingame characters) with individual facial characteristics. Cybernetic claims that it will be able to map the faces of their clients on to these characters, allowing put-upon employees to take revenge on their bosses with a few well-placed shotgun blasts.

The downside, however is that the office assassin also loses anonymity. Those who wish to curry favour with their bosses would do well to hold their fire - repeated barassment with automatic weapons is fairly good grounds for instant dismissal.

Cubernetic: http://www.cybernetic.co.uk

INTERNET EXPLORER 5.0 made its debut last weck, with Microsoft's chairman, Bill Gates, saying that it will be a major part of the Windows 98 Second Edition upgrade, due in the autumn. Gates said the browser was part of Microsoft's mission to spread the Web lifestyle - "taking the Internet. combining it with great software and turning it into the most powerful tool of all time".

The company's IntelliSense technologies have been extended into the application to help reduce the time spent in routine tasks. Its caching methods and rendering engine are faster than in the previous version. Microsoft claims that it is up to 60 per cent faster than Netscape Navigator 4.5 at displaying pages, Search facilities nave been enhanced and, playing catch-up with Netscape, a acility to show sites related to the current one has been added. A toolbar gives easy access to Internet radio stations without the need for third-party

IE 5.0 was released for Windows 3.1, 95, 98 and NT, as well as Sun's Solaris and Hewlett-Packard's HP UX versions of Unix. An upgrade version for the Macintosh will be available in the autumn, but there are no plans for a Linux version.

APPLE COMPUTER last week launched the latest version of its operating system for servers, Mac OS X Server. It went on sale at \$499, almost half the originally announced cost, as Apple targeted Linux with the software, which has its

Steve Jobs, Apple's interim CEO, said the new operating system using Apache software and Apple hardware can handle more web connections per second than comparably priced machines from Dell, running either Linux or Windows NT. He also said that Apple was getting on the open source bandwagon by releasing core parts of Mac OS X Server source code to enable developers to write more effective applications. "If we all work on this together, we can make a better product than any one company by itself," ex-

plained Jobs. The release marks the start of Apple's two-tier strategy for operating systems. Echoing and Windows NT for different markets, Apple will release a consumer version of Mac OS X later this year.

MOBILE PHONES and the Internet featured prominently at the CeBIT trade show in Hanover last week. Symbian, the British-based alliance between the world's largest cell phone manufacturers, announced that Sun's Java technology would be a standard feature of the operating system in its new generation of mobile communications devices. The Symbian-member Psion demonstrated some products run-

half of 1999. Motorola, another Symbian member, demonstrated its latest models and said that next year all its mobile phones would have Internet browsing

be releasing them in the second



functions built in. Intel used the show to unveil its Pentium III Xeon Processor. The company's fastest microprocessor is designed for mid-range and high-end servers as well as workstations. The launch version runs at 500MHz. A 550MHz version is expected next month.

AOL COMPLETED the acquisition of Netscape Communications following clearance by the US Department of Justice (DOJ) and a vote last week by Netscape shareholders. The deal was worth about \$4.2bn when announced last November, but the final value to Netscape shareholders was based on the price of AOL stock, which has increased by 140 per cent since then, making the deal worth about \$10.1bn. Detailed operational plans for the combined company and a related alliance with Sun are expected to be released this week. Microsoft said the decision. and subsequent creation of an Internet giant, make the DOJ's ongoing anti-trust case against it irrelevant.

DETAILS OF the consent order agreed between the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC) roots in the NeXT operating and Intel on the eve of an antitrust trial were released last week. Intel was accused by the FTC of being a monopolist, illegally withholding products intellectual property rights. The consent order bars Intel from severing business ties with customers who sue it.

"If you have an intellectual property dispute, Intel cannot cut you off," said the FTC's chairman. Robert Pitofsky. However, if a customer sues Intel and seeks an injunction to prevent the company from selling its chips, Intel is free to withhold samples and technical information that the customer needs to stay in business.

Pitofsky said that achieving a balance was important and that no company would be per mitted to shut down the other.

"This gives a framework for handling these disputes with our customers," said Peter Detkin, the associate general counsel of Intel

The commission voted to accept the proposed consent order for a 60-day public comment period, after which it is expected to make it final.

SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS last week became the first company to start mass production of 256-megabit dynamic random access memory (Dram) chips. Although the same size as current 64 and 128-megabit ning Java and said that it would Drams, the faster and highercapacity chips will increasingly be used in memory-hungry high-end PCs as well as servers and workstations. Samsung said it will make 2-3 million chips this year, worth \$200m to

E-commerce policy requires more than quick thinking

communication."

IN BETWEEN sorting out the Irish peace process and denouncing dodgy European Commissioners, Tony Blair has found time to put his 10 pence worth into improving the lot of the online bargainhunter. The Prime Minister has set the target for the UK to be the best environment for electronic trading by the

year 2002. Since more than 25 per cent of UK Net users have already shopped online, it would appear that ecommerce is doing pretty well without Tony's blessing. However, the Department of Trade and Industry has published a list of intended e-commerce legislation, and invites your comments by 1 April It's good to see that the Government has discovered "web time" although the three-week consultation period is better suited to Silicon Valley

venture capitalists than to Whitehall bureaucrats. Up for discussion is the

legal and technical process for the roll-out of electronic signatures (simply an electronic equivalent of manual signatures). If the very idea makes your eyes glaze over, spare a thought for the poor sods in the online sales business. They have to cope with a plague of "test" orders and "I've changed my mind" orders, or "I would like to pretend for 10 minutes that I want to go to New York" orders (a popular therapy among

online travel shoppers). Many online travel services are troubled by customers who book the cheapo flight to New York, then change their minds and cancel half an hour later. Meanwhile, the online travel agent assumes this ticket is old, and takes it off the

availability lists to avoid double-booking. By the time the customer has cancelled, the agent has missed the opportunity to sell the ticket to somebody else.

However, if electronic signatures were legally binding, the customer would be held accountable for orders and would take the process more seriously. This is a problem not just for online travel agents but for any fast-moving stock - CDs, clothes, books, hardware. So the Government

seems to be making the right point. Sorting out the electronic signature process would make bargain-hunting more enjoyable, as you would be sure you were looking at all the available items, not just what was left after the "testers" had taken the best offers. A solid system for electronic signatures would also allow



PASCOE It's good to see the Government has

discovered 'web time' you to get credit online (at the moment a written signature is the legal requirement), which is handy if there's something you like, but the pay cheque

weeks away. The problem with the Government's proposal, though, is that it appears to be slightly schizophrenic. On one hand, the Government understands the necessity of electronic signatures, and is willing to support an agreed cryptography solution (that is, the technology behind the electronic signature encoding process). On the

other hand, it wants new powers for law enforcement agencies to gain access to encrypted data. They want the police to be able to break encrypted messages if criminal activity is suspected.

The Government fails to understand that electronic signatures are tools of trust between customer and merchant. Inviting the police into that closely guarded relationship would be stretching that trust beyond what most people are prepared to accept. If I shop on Amazon.com, I don't particularly want the police

to know about it. I'm happy for Amazon to sort out a digital signature system, but not to share that with law enforcement agencies, for fear of potential abuse of the system.

The technical aspect of electronic signatures will also be a major discussion point, as hackers abound and most sophisticated encryption systems can be computing power and hackers' talents for exposing code weaknesses. The Government correctly suggests that the law in this case should be technologyneutral, and recommends that licensed certification authorities be set up to offer that technical solution. But the very idea of a private authority holding data on my finances makes me shiver. as this situation is certainly open to abuse.

the future would be easy? The issue of electronic signatures must be resolved. but it also must be debated so we don't choose unworkable solutions. Giving three weeks' consultation time on such a complex issue seems a bit mean considering the

But hey! Who said that

implications. Meanwhile, I personally would like to see the Government delivering on the promise that 25 per cent of its own dealings with citizens will be done online by 2002. I don't know how many weeks I have been carrying my council tax payment around in my bag never quite posting it off, If I could pay that bill online, though, the Government would have saved a lot of money that is now being

spent chasing me (and

ountless others like me).

went into developing online tax collection, we would have a nice budget for a cutting-edge governmental e-commerce system. Submitting my general tax assessment online would be another wish, and paying the TV licence fee is on my list

If that "chase money"

So it seems the Government has its work cut out without venturing into tricky areas such as electronic signatures. But it is no doubt more fun writing White Papers than slaving away on specifications for an online tax collection system. Meanwhile, if you want to comment on the proposal for electronic signatures, check out http://www.dti.gov.uk/ CII/elec/elec com.html and mail your comments to . Stephen de Souza (sec@ciid.dti.govuk). епа перетсот

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The Man

Just like the Oscars ... almost

The annual Internet awards may lack the glamour of Hollywood, but the red carpet still gets rolled out. By Richard Kelly Heft

HE'S SLIGHT, gap-toothed and poltwo more for his work on the Amatee to a fault. Britain's Colin Needzon.com site, which acquired IMDB
help. The red carpet was rolled out,
searchlights beamed into the sky, "Bimbo's". This year it drew more
tainment Weekly and Time Digital. ham may not look like a celebrity, but a year ago. in the world of the Web he is surely a superstar. Needham, managing director of the Bristol-based Internet Movie Database, picked up an armful of hardware at the Webby Awards in San Francisco.

The Webbies - Internet equivalent of the Oscars - crowned the world's best websites in 22 categories, ranging from the arts to humour and polities, on Thursday night.

With the millions of sites up for consideration, simply landing among the finalists is a major achievement. Needham's IMDB won a remarkable three Webby Awards: one for his Internet Movie Database site (http://imdb.com), voted best in the film category, and

Needham also came up with one of the eleverest lines of the night no small feat given the five-word limit on acceptance speeches. "I'm King of the World... Wide Web,"he said. Afterwards Needham's arms grew shaky holding his three peculiar-looking, spring-shaped Webbies while talking to reporters. The IMDB site has now won the film category three years in a row.

"I'm just a guy who likes movies who happened to have a website, "said Needham, beaming like a crowned beauty queen.

Organisers clearly hope that the Webbies will eventually attain an Oscar-like cachet - but some recog-nisable faces in the crowd might

there were even paid groupies swooning and hooting for anyone who marched into the city's Herb-

The big problem, though, was that no one knew any of the movers and shakers of the industry, and the star judges, including Francis Ford Cop-pola (film), David Bowie (music), Richard Branson (travel) and The X files' Gillian Anderson (weird) were all no-shows. "They declined to come," said the director of operations. Claudia Smuckler, who added

helpfully: "They're here in spirit." But while the celebs may have snubbed the event, there is little doubt about that it is gaining momentum and a profile. Just two years ago the Webbies were being

than 3,000 guests, filling the decidedly posh Herbst Theatre downtown. A gala bash was held across the street at the newly renovated

It's no accident that the city of San Francisco offered up its legislature for the affair. New York's mayor, Rudy Giuliani, spent the year trying to woo the Webby organiser Tiffany Shlain to the Big Apple. San Francisco's mayor Willie Brown, who took a few jabs at New York in his opening speech, pledged the city's sup-port to keep the Webbies in town. Since the inauspicious early days, the awards have clearly gone main-

stream. Balloting this year was audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers

and sponsors included those corpor-

THE H in HTML stands for

readers to understand a

text fully, they needed a way

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of any reference found

this seemed impossible.

Although you could add

Still, the event seems to have re-

tained some edginess. The crowd was sprinkled with guests wearing everything from Thirties vintage brooze-coloured dresses and pillbox hats to aqua-blue Marge Simpson wigs. Statuesque Suzy D, aged 24, a massage therapist and part-time Internet broadcaster, secretly videotaped the pre-awards party - including the words and image of one man who propositioned her through a miniature camera clipped to a floral headpiece. The entire event was covered live on the Internet, naturally, and the hidden camera - the same kind used by the FBI was used to space up the coverage

"I just wanted to make this interesting," said Chris Courtney, principal of 1st Byte, which provided News Online, and Sportspages.com. the video streaming. "Can you imagine just broadcasting this party? What a bore."

The ceremony itself was reacceptance speeches lasting an average of 3.6 seconds, the awards were handed out in a blur.

Certainly the most bizarre inci-

dent of the night happened during the acceptance of first award, won by jodi.org in the Arts category. Representatives, who had apparently travelled from Barcelona for the ceremony, stormed the stage and angrily shoved a hapless cameraman. Their words to the world: "Ugly; commercial sons of bitches".

Other winners included in the News category CNN Interactive. which beat out the finalist BBC

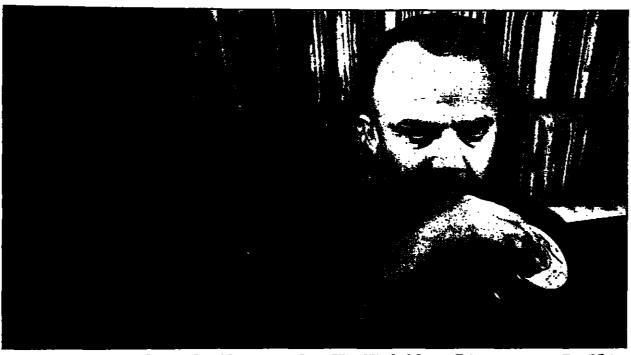
which beat out the UK's SoccerNet in the Sports category:

The "Weird" class has become the most anticipated award of the markably efficient. With its five-word evening. Like the best illm for the Oscars, it is the last announced and receives the most attention. Up against some truly bizarre competition, Superbad (www.superbad. com beat out Disinformation (www disinfo.com1 and the traditional

favourite Absurd (www.absurd org Superbad's acceptance speech was about as nasty as the fluffy latten featured on its site. "Thanks a lot," said the site representative, who avoided a still-recovering cameraman. This is nice.

A full list of Webby Award winner:

MY TECHNOLOGY



John Peel: 'It is the only thing I take with me everywhere. It's a bit of a joke, really'

A spin doctor's friend

John Peel on the little bit of plastic that's always in his pocket

WITHOUT AN insignificantlooking, tiny piece of plastic, I wouldn't be able to play many of my most-liked records. The small, circular gadget slots into the centre of the record and makes it the right size.

It's the only thing I take with me everywhere. It's a bit of a joke, really. I always say it's like being a doctor, and you take your stethoscope everywhere. I like to imagine an "is there a doctor in the house?" situation with a DJ. If it ever happens, I will be there.

It's one of those things, like the back of your knee, which seem to have no name. The reason why a lot of records have holes too large is partly because of the jukebox; the record would have a big hole punched in it so that it could fit this dif-

ferent type of turntable. An individual one is called a little piece of plastic that can be I go out of my way to buy

put in the centre of a record per-records, and always check to manently. There is the big central column that the record rests on, and it fits on the middle silver bit that sticks up, and fills the hole. There are quite a few turntables that circumvent the plastic circle and have one that's built into the turntable, and pops up if you

need one.

Of course, my favourite bit of technology is deemed unnecessary because so many records are transferred on to assembled sound: it is bright and brittle and too glossy. I think you lose out, particularly with old 45s, and a lot of records that are ex-jukebox, because they were originally recorded with that medium in mind. I think of the surface noise as battle scars honourably won, patterns "spider", and is a very fragile on a painting. Suffice it to say,

see whether something is available on vinyl. It's cheaper, too. But the plastic hole-fill was essential when I used to do DJ gigs. These days, with the personality DJs, all of their records

are transferred to Mini Disc, so they don't handle the music. But I often found myself planked in front of a turntable that didn't have the pop-up piece in the middle, Nightmare. So from those days I have carried one around with me. It's always in CD these days. The CD sound my right-hand trouser pocket, is a deconstructed and re- so now you know what to do if ever there is a case when I am unconscious and a record must be played.

> I have tens of thousands of records that are put wherever we can find a space. There is a sort of a system, but the sheer volume of stuff coming in means that it breaks down quite regularly.

At home, I have industrial-

strength equipment. Obviously. I am not looking for something too sophisticated because of the sheer volume of work it has to do. You can't have fancy gear when you are using it for 12 hours a day.

We have a little studio in the house, and it's where we do live programmes for Radio 1. It would not be identified as a studio, it hasn't got sound proofing or anything, and looks like a rather elaborate home stereo system. I don't know how to use it - my grasp of technology is zero. I know that Broadcasting House dials a number and if they have done it correctly then the light flashes and I am

> INTERVIEWBY JENNIFER RODGER

John Peel's Radio 1 programme can be heard on Tuesdays, Wednesdays Thursdays at 10.10pm

There's more than one way to link your hypertext

Hypertext. Although it may seem like a new concept, hypertext is an idea (it in fact started out as a philosophical dissertation) that was first proposed in the Sixties by Ted Nelson. He developed a philosophy around the idea that our comprehension of what we read is dependent not only on the knowledge of the CRANFORD author, but also on the knowledge of the reader. TEAGUE Nelson realised that for

> Hypertext offers us new ways of understanding information

out examples of these different forms of hypertextual linking at my (www.webbedenvironments. com/ examples/61.html).

nower this medium gives us to change the very nature of is not really hypertextual. ent pages, this merely discussed what hypertext is co.uk/net/980210ne/story5.ht ploring content except in pose of having a medium (www.independent.co.uk/net the need to follow a path hypertexts is understanding week, I would like to explain been previously viewed -

> Related linking structure: This is probably the most common form of linking on the Web and is the style that most closely mimics

links, the author sets up hypertextual relations to other Web pages or sites that contain additional information about the content being presented. The author can add any number of links from their content to other supporting content, but the links must be selected carefully so as a wild goose chase.

Linear linking structure: .In a way, linear linking, where there is only a single the "next" page of content, Although it allows the visitor to move between differmimics pages of a book and prevents the visitor from exthe order you want them to see it. This defeats the purthat should free readers of predetermined by the author. Still, for portraying certain kinds of information for example, where what is being presented builds upon information that has to have this may be your best solu-

footnotes. With related content on those pages will would write out the story from beginning to end in a

not to send the reader off on Tree linking structure: The traditional method to add structure to your site beyond a straight line is to create a tree structure. where the visitor can select their path through your information. Hypertextual tree structures remind me of those "choose your own adventure" books I read as a child. You would read a few pages, then choose the action of the protagonist. Depending on the action you chose, you would go to different pages. The narrative was, in effect, linear, but readers could choose the path that suite them best. For websites, this works by giving the reader several links to choose from on a nage. These links take them to one of many possible "next"

pages rather than the single next page of the linear link structure. They then proceed through the site, weaving their own web. Fractal linking structure: With the tree linking structure, we think of each page in a website as a discreet "bundle" of information, complete in and of itself, linked to other discreet bundles. With fractal linking, however, a summary of the information (or abstract) is first presented. Each portion of

the content will then

contain a link to the same

information, but in greater

detail. Then, each portion of

contain links to increasingly detailed explanations of what was presented on the previous page. Imagine you are writing a fictional story: Normally you

linear fashion. However, if you were to write the story in a fractal fashion, you would write out the entire story in a few short paragraphs, not going into much detail on any particular point in the story. A reader can read this to get an overview of what has happened. Let's then say that you mention a conversation between two characters in one of the paragraphs of your story. The reader can click on a link and read the conversation. Within that conversation, then, let's say you mention some object that your characters were discussing. The reader could click on a link to see a more detailed description of the away from the first "page" of

This system can work well for presenting highly detailed business reports and scientific studies. The reader can read the abstract to get the full (but limited) report and then follow links to magnify particular portions of the report for a more thorough explanation of the content. The resolution of the information is left to the author.

the story, the story becomes

increasingly detailed.

Jason Cranford Teague tiason(a webbedenvironments.com) is the author of DHTML for the World Wide Web'. Visit his website. Webbed Environments, (www.webbed environments.com), for an archive of this column

WEBSITES

Star Wars http://www.starwars.com/ Some 3.5 million downloads were claimed for the latest "Phantom Menace" trailer within five days of its appearance at the official Star Wars and Apple sites. This despite it being a QuickTime exclusive, unlike

the multi-platform "teaser" which was launched a few months ago. The two-and-ahalf-minute epic is just the latest stage in the

determinedly digital strategy for George Lucas's saga: test digital projection screenings will take place during the US release starting in May, and the next title in the series, early next year, may be shot electronically, with long-term plans to download the whole thing to cinemas by satellite. Meanwhile, lawyers are



clamping down on copyright infringement, but not so far on the inevitable web parodies, such as Pork Wars: the Little Menace (http:// sabbeth.com/~menace/ specialedition htm) which mofficially enlists the whole South Park crew. Kenny, of course, continues to meet his usual fate.

Kubrick Multimedia Film Guide http://www.lehigh.edu/ ~pj12/kubrick/ Speaking of teaser trailers. that disconcerting Cruise. Kidman-Kubrick footage is, unsurprisingly, now floating around on the Web, sometimes in rather dubious contexts. No sign of it, though, at the official Eyes Wide Shut page, which so far offers only a discreet memorial. The above site is one of the best of the Stanley Kubrick pages, and like the director himself leaves the interpretation of his films to the viewer, offering mainly

images and sounds from the

movies themselves. Other

reverential ("the Man, his

sites are even more

Films, the Genius", "The

Master Film-maker"), while

one offers a trivia quiz: Name at least three films which feature saliva coming out of a character's mouth." A dedicated newsgroup. alt movies kubrick, recorded the dismay of fans at the recent news of the director's death; the group's archive, The Kubrick Site, (http:// amk atc dmacc cc ia us), is a mine of information on everything from Nietzsche's contribution to 2001 to the precise technical details of a bullet's "full metal jacket".

BollywoodWorld http://www.bollywoodworld. Hooray for Bollywood, on this showing still in the best of health despite the predations

and video piracy. Kuch Kuch Kota Hai seems to have swept the board at the recent Indian film awards, and the veteran actor/politician/ minor deity Amitabh Bachchan's latest, Lal Badshah, has just been released. Rani Mukherjee and Govinda shared some "very relaxed vibes" on set recently, but are not having an affair of course! Along with all the gossip, there is extensive RealAndio of latest musical hits, a quiz, a history of Indian cinema since 1897, and that all-important heightof the stars table (Amitabh in the lead at 6'2", but Amir Khan a mere 5'5").

http://www.cat.nvu.edu/ parkbench/ Though it lost out to jodi.org at the Webbys, this site from a group of pioneer New York multimedia artists is an equally challenging, if less playful, exploration, in this case of the overlapping territory between video, web and performance art. Centrepiece is a mosaic of

Park Bench

of international TV satellites archived sequences created

between 1994 and now allows viewers to control the frame rate as they unravel, and includes recent pieces which merge live elements from different national locations. Other projects here include Vutualice, a mobile camera on a wheeled "throne" which can be controlled both by website and gallery visitors and thereby explore various issues to do with memory, subjectivity and surveillance. The Park Bench project itself involves placing various location-specific computer booths around the city, seemingly part artwork, part public utility

Send recommendations for interesting, quirky or, at a pinch, cool site recommendations to websites@dircon.co.uk



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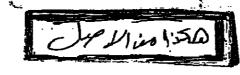
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NEW FILMS

APRILE (15) Director: Nanni Moretti

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Starring: Nanni Moretti, Silvia Nono

More meta-documentary shenanigans from Nanni Moretti, a sort of Roman Woody Allen complete with the same nerdy patter, the same self-reflexive neuroses. His skittish, mercurial Aprile freewheels through a three-year period in Italian politics. Meantime, running as a kind of se by counterpoint, goes the director's will-he-won'the intention to make a musical about a Trotskyite pastry chef. Impossible to pigeon-hole, Aprile dances to its own realist/absurdist rhythms; before bowing out with a finale that's both ridiculous and charming. West End: Metro, Renoir

ARLINGTON ROAD (15) Director: Mark Pellington

Starring: Jeff Bridges, Tim Robbins Trouble's a-brewing behind the manicured

suburban lawns of Mark Pellington's intriguingly staged paranoia thriller, which sees Jeff Bridges' college prof becoming suspicious about the antics of his outwardly respectable neighbour (Tim Robbins). Meanwhile, Pellington goes hig on skewed camera angles, yet rings too few changes in his film's familiar territory. With Joan Cusack and Hope Davies. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue, Clapham Picture House, Notting Hill Coronet. Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, UCI Whiteleys, Sirgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Fulage West End. And local cinemas

A NIGHT AT THE ROXBURY (15) Director: John Fortenberry Starring: Will Ferrell, Chris Kattan

Fortenberry's indulgent showcase for Saturday Night Line favourites Ferrell and Kattan is so bovine that it moos. Here come our imbecilic heroes: squabbling with daddy (Dan Hedaya) and cruising the mall-spaces of Nineties LA, while one ham-fisted comedy sequence follows another. Think Dumb and Dumber without the wit. One whole night. It only feels fhat long. West End: Plaza, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

SEUL CONTRE TOUS (18) Director: Gaspar Noé

Starring: Philippe Nahon, Blandine Lenoir Welcome to "shit-hole" France. Your guide: a sociopathic butcher (Nahon) who is pushed over the edge when he figures out that someone has abused his daughter. The style: crash-zooms and in-yer-face close-ups. Less straight cinema than a kind of whiplashing fairground ride, Seul Contre Tous is an attention-grabbing debut for the talented Noé. But its harsh exposé of modern France is compromised by its creator's relentlessly gimmicky

style. West End: Curzon Soho, Ritzy Cinema

SOUTHPAW (15) Director: Liam McGrath Starring: Francis Barrett

This coarse-grained, warm-hearted film charts the rise of 10-year-old light-welterweight Francis Barrett, an Irish traveller with dreams of Olympic glory. Bobbing around the caravan sites of County Galway, Liam McGrath's documentary gently spotlights anti-traveller prejudice while paying lip-service to the views of local eccentrics. Southpow is a shade soft in its centre, but it's impeccably well-intentioned. West End: Metro

WAKING NED (PC) Director: Kirk Jones Starring: Ian Bannen, David Kelly

Good news first: Ned, a salt-of-the-earth resident of Tully in rural Ireland, has just won the lottery. Bad news: Ned is dead. Cue a rattle-bag of comedic misadventure as two skallywags scheme to get their paws on the loot. The film has a zesty undertow of black comedy, but is too air-brushed for its own good. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre. And local cinemas

GENERAL RELEASE

AFFLICTION (15)

West End: ABC Swiss Centre

BELOVED (15)

Jonathan Demme's adaptation of Toni Morrison's multi-layered novel was always going to make for an uneasy marriage; hopping shakily between upfront dramatics and down in the mix mysticism. Still, heartfelt acting and a vibrant visual sense paper over all manner of cracks. West End: Ritzy Cinema, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

A BUG'S LIFE (U)

Humble insect Fliktries to save his community from marauding grasshoppers (headed by Kevin Spacey). West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Clapham Picture House, Odeon Counden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Mezzonine, Odeon Swiss-Cottoge, Ritzy Cinema, UCI - And local cinemas Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

INTRAL STATION (15)

for Walter Salles's Oscar-nominated Brazilian fable elite. Repertory: Prince Charles about a retired schoolmarm and her abandoned nine-year-old charge. The trip takes in all facets of PLEASANTVILLE (12) Brazil's displaced and poverty-stricken culture, yet Salles steadfastly refuses to make any heavy handed political point. West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Curzon Maufair, Gate Notting Hill, Renoit, Ritzy Cinemo, Screen on the Hill, Virgin Fulham Road, Local: Croydon Clocktower

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse and gets manners, corporate paranois, dental hygiene embroiled in all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. West End: ABC Ponton Street, Odeon Morble Arch, Virgin Trocadero. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Croydon Warner Village

FESTEN (THE CELEBRATION) (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Chelsea Cinema, Curzon Soho, Screen on Baker Street. Repertory:

HIDEOUS KINKY (15)

Through the landscape of 1970s Morocco treads Kate Winslet's hippie single-mum, her two daughters unwillingly in tow. Winslet does well as the tale's permanently strung-out, unsated matriarch. West End: ABC Swiss Centre, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road

HILARY AND JACKIE (15) Full-throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Anand Tucker's warts-andall biopic of the Du Pré sisters, Hilary (shy, married flautist) and Jacqueline (world-famous cellist). West End: ABC Panton Street

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (LA VITA E BELLA) (PG) In Roberto Benigni's comedy, the writer-director rs as a Jewish bookseller in fascist Italy. He is spirited off to a death-camp and strives to convince his son that it is just an eccentric game. A cast of Britain's finest (Kathy Burke, Ian Hart West End: Curzon Soho, Curzon Minema, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsen. Virgin Haymarket. Repertory: Phoenix Cinema, The Pullman Everyman. Local: Warner Village North Finchley

LITTLE VOICE (15)

In her bedroom, Jane Horrocks perfects strident Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations. Bracing black comedy, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Michael Caine push the film through to the final curtain. West End: Odeon West End. Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village End, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

abbin Wright Penn stars as an abused woman called upon by William Hurt's lawyer to testify against her brutal ex-boyfriend. West End: ABC Piccodillo

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18) Don Roos' harum-scarum trip through American gender politics stars Christina Ricci as the dastardly teen whose precocious antics send the adults into a state. West End: Warner Village West End. Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre

George Clooney plays the law-breaking hero as a down-and-dirty version of Cary Grant, and turns in the best performance of his career so far. West End-Ritzy Cinema. Repertory: Prince Charles. Local: Wimbledon Odeon

PATCH ADAMS (12)

Through the ballowed halls of medical college goes Hunter "Patch" Adams (Robin Williams); a shock-doc who has the patients in stitches while giving a collective hernia to the stuffy Establishment. It's like the ultimate distillation of the ultimate Robin Williams movie: the life sucked out, and replaced by syrup. West End: ABC Tottenhom. Court Road, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero.

PECKER (18)

Trash auteur John Waters swerves into sunnier streets with Pecker, his satirical tale of Rio's teeming terminus serves as the launchpad an amateur photographer adopted by New York's

See The Independent Recommends, above.

West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

SCHIZOPOLIS (15)

In Steven Soderbergh's experimental film, suburban and the rituals of adultery are deconstructed in energetic, scattergun fashion, though the film is finally too film-school wacky to appeal. West End: Curzon Soho

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Suriss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero. And local cinemas

THE THIN RED LINE (15)

See The Independent Recommends, above. West End: Clapham Picture House, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road. And local cinemas

THE 39 STEPS (1935 VERSION) (PG) The 39 Steps stands proud as the most polished pic

of Hitchcock's early, British period. The film is as light and bracing as oxygen: all witty twists and throwaway lines as it builds towards a crescendo. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

THIS YEAR'S LOVE (18)

et al) weave to and fro through David Kane's Camden-set essay on urban romance. West End: Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Haymarket, Ritzy Cinema, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

VERY BAD THINGS (18)

Peter Berg's debut serves up swaggering gross-out comedy, but it's finally a film with nowhere to go save from shrill to shriller to shrillest. With Cameron Diaz. West End: Worner Village West

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan star in this contrived romance saved by a shrewd Internet plot hook. West End: Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Suriss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Haymarket, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End. And local cinemas

YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS (18) Another troubling X-ray of American mores from In the Company of Men director Neil LaBute. West End: ABC Piccodilly.

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

Pleasantville (12)

Two Nineties teenagers are magicked into the world of a favourite Fifties sitcom and begin to exert a dramatic influence on its conformist blackand-white idyll. A witty, inventive parable.

Festen (15) Danish director Thomas Vinterberg's superlative black comedy (right) centres on the 60th birthday of a family patriarch who finds himself at the heart of dark secrets that unexpectedly emerge.

The Thin Red Line (15)

Terrence Malick remins to the screen after a 20-year absence with a hugely ambitious film about the battle of Guadalcanal. A war movie of a sort, though what that sort might be is uncertain.

Affliction (15) Paul Schrader's bleak study in fatherhood and

fatalism, adapted from Russell Banks's novel, stars Nick Nolte as a man struggling to escape the influence of his violent dad (James Coburn).

Shakespeare in Love (15) This enjoyable romp suggests how romance fired Shakespeare with the creative inspiration for Romeo and Julier. With a multi-star cast.

ANTHONY QUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

Troilus and Cressida (Olivier, NT, London)

This theatre and this Shakespeare play are made for each other, a fact proved by the masterly sweep and precision of focus in Trevor Nura's gifted production. To 19 May

Shockheaded Peter (Lyric Hammersmith, London)

The Strovelpear stories, served up as an unforgettably gory feast of the comic macabre in this mordanth inventive evening of music theatre. To 10 Apr Copenhagen

(Duchess Theatre. London) Michael Frayn's profound and haunting meditation (right) on science, morality and the mysteries of human motivation. To 7. lug

The Dispute (Poole Arts Centre) Neil Bartlett's devilishly good production of Mariyaux's clever tragi-comedy, 23-27 Mar.

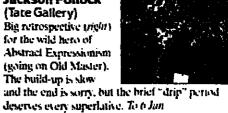
Volpone (Swan Theatre, Stratford) Comedies don't come any funnier or more astringent than Ben Jonson's brilliant dissection of avaricious, over-reaching egotism. To 26 Mer

PALL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Jackson Pollock (Tate Gallery)

Big retrospective (right) for the wild hero of Abstract Expressionism (going on Old Master). The build-up is slow



Portraits by Ingres (National Gallery) Some of the most intense portraiture ever. Exquisite melanges of flesh and tabue, dreams or sex and money. To 25, 4m

Patrick Caulfield (Hayward Gallery)

The modern object-world made lumnous, Caulfield is a virtuoso of many styles, and this retrospective. offers the range - notably those fat, laconic outlines flooded with translucent colour. In 12. Ipr

Oppé Watercolour Collection (Whitworth, Manchester)

Classic British watercolours made lareck outdoors. including Alexander Covern' sketches, Constable, John Sell Cotman and Francis Towner, 1997, 197

Richard Deacon (Tate, Liverpool)

Chunky, curvaceous assemblages of wood, metal. and plastic by the noted sculptor. To In Max-

TOY LUBBOA'S

CINEMA WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET ASIC PAINTON STREET
(0870-902 0404)
Piccadilly
Circus Eltzabeth 2.15pm, 5.15pm,
8.10pm Enemy of the State
1.50pm, 5.05pm. 7.55pm Hillary
and Jackle 2.25pm, 5.25pm,
8.20pm r (Pi) 1.30pm, 3.35pm,
6.15pm, 8.45pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322) © Piccadilly Circus Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm Loved 1.30pm, 6.15pm Your Friends and Neighbors 4,05pm, 8.45pm

ARC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402)
Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Arlington Road 1.05pm, 3.25pm, 5.45pm, 8.40pm El 1.40pm, 5.15pm, 8.20pm Elizabeth

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0870-902 0403) 9 Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus The 39 Steps (1935 Version) 1.10pm, 3.05pm, 5pm, 7.05pm, 9pm Affliction 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Hideous Kinky 1.50pm, 4.05pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm 1.45pm,

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0870-902 0414) & Tottenham Court Road Patch Adams 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Shakespeere 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 4.10pm, 8.55pm Waking Ned 9.25pm Waking Ned 1.25pm, 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9pm 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.35pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) ♦ Moorgate Central Station 6.15pm, 8.40pm Waking Ned 3pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) O Square Festen 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE
(0171-498 3323) & Clapham
Common Arlington Road 1.15pm,
4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Central
Station 1.45pm, 4.20pm, 7pm,
9.20pm The Thin Red Line
1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm Walking
Ned 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm,
7.30pm, 9.30pm 7,30pm, 9.30pm CURZON MAYFAIR

6 15pm 8 45pm CURZON MINEMA

(0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge La Vita è Bella 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm CURZON SOHO

CURZON SOHO
(0171-734 2255 (12noon-6pm)
O Leicester Square Eye of God 6pm
Festen 2.45pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm,
9pm Niagara Niagara 1pm Seul
Contre Yous 1.45pm, 3.45pm,
7.45pm, 9.45pm La Vita è Belia
1pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) & Leicester Square Parch Adams Ipm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Shakespeare in Love 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm The Bruman Show 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate Central Station 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Elizabeth 2.15pm

METRO (0171-734 1506) ⊕ Piccadilly Circus Aprile 3pm, 5pm, 7pm,

9pm Southpaw 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

(0171-727 6705) ♦ Notting Hill Gate Arlington Road 3.15pm. 6pm, 8.35pm ODEON CAMDEN TOWN (08705-050007) ← Camden Town

Patch Adams 12.30pm, 6pm Pleasantville 11.45am, 2.35pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm This Year's Love 1.05pm, 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm Waking Ned 11.35am, 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9.05pm

ODEON HAYMARKET (08705-050007) & Piccadilly Circus This Year's Love 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm. 8.45pm ODEON KENSINGTON

(08705-050007) & High Street Kensington Patch Adams 12.40pm. Kensington Patch Adams 12.40pm, 3.35pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Pleasantwille 12.30pm, 3.25pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm, 3.20pm, 6.15pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 5.05pm, 8.45pm La Vite è Bella 1.05pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm; 9.20pm Waking Ned 12.05pm, 2.30pm, 4.55pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm (08705-050007) & Lekester Square The Thin Red Line Square The 1nm 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.45pm ODEON MARBLE ARCH

ODEON LEICESTER SOLIARE

ODEON MARBLE ARCH
(08705-050007) & Marble Arch
Patch Adams 3.40pm, 9.15pm
Pleasantville 12.40pm, 3.25pm,
6.10pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in
Love 12.55pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm,
9.05pm The Thin Red Line 1pm,
4.35pm, 8.10pm Waking Ned
12.45pm, 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm,
9.45pm You've Got M@ii
12.50pm, 6.15pm ODEON MEZZANINE

5.35pm, 8.20pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm ODEON SWISS COTTAGE

(08705-050007) & Swiss Cottage Arlington Road 12.30pm, 3.05pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Hideous Kinky 12.55pm, 5.55pm Patch Adams 1pm, 6pm Pleasantville 3.10pm, 19m, bpm Pleasantville 3.1Upm, 8.10pm Shakespeare in Lowe 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Thin Red Line 12.35pm, 4.05pm, 7.45pm Walking Ned 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@II 3.30pm, 8.30pm

ODEON WEST END (08705-050007) → Leicester PEPSI IMAX CINEMA

(0171-494 4153) O Piccadilly Circus Everest 4.45pm, 8.05pm, 1.5 - The First City in Space (3-D) 2.40pm, 7pm T-Rex: Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 1.35pm, 3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm

PLAZA (0990-888990) Piccadilly Circus Arilagton Road 12.30pm, 3.15pm. 6pm, 8.45pm A Night at the Roxbury 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 3pm, 8.30pm The Rugrats Movie 8,30pm The Rugrats Movie 12noon, 2pm Saving Private Ryan 4.15pm, 7.45pm

REMOTE

RITZY CINEMA (0171-733 2229) BR/Ø Brixton Central Station 4.15pm, 9.15pm La Classe de Neige 2.45pm Pleasantville 1.50pm, 6.40pm Seul Contre Tous 4.45pm, 9.20pm Shakespeare in Love 6.55pm The This Red Line 3.40pm, 7.05pm This Year's Love 4.20pm, 9.10pm La Vita è Bella 1.45pm, 6.35pm Waking Ned 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Festen 3.35pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Walking Ned 3pm, 5pm.

SCREEN ON THE GREEN

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ← Belsize Park Central Station 4.30pm, 9.15pm La Vita è Bella 2.10pm, 6.50pm

UCI WHITELEYS

2pm, 4.10pm Madeline 1pm Patch Adams 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Pleasantville 6.20pm, 9.25pm Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 12.45pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Thin Red Line 12.30pm, 4.30pm, 8pm La Vita è Bella 12.15pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Walsing Ned 11.45am, 2.15pm 4.60pm, 2.15pm, 8.45pm, 8.45pm 2.15pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm You've Got M@E 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA Virtisin CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) ⊕ Sloane Square Pleasantrille 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm La Vita è Bella 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Waking Ned 12.45pm, 2.50pm, 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-907 0711) O Kensington Arlington Road 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Central Station 1,40pm, 4pm, 7pm Hideous Kinky 9,10pm Little Voice 9.30pm Patch 1.10pm, 3.40pm, Shakespeare in Love 12.50om. 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@il 6.20pm, 9.20pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET VINCSIN HAYMARKET
(0870-907 0712)

Paccadity
Circus Pleasantville 3pm. 6pm.
8.45pm La Vita

Bella 3.30pm.
6.15pm. 9pm You've Got M@Il
2pm. 4.45pm. 7.45pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO
(0870-907 0716) ♦ Pscadiily
Circus Arlington Read 12.15pm.
2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm A Bug's
Life 1pm, 3.10pm, 5.20pm Enemy
of the State 8.30pm A Night
at the Roudury 12.30pm.
2.40pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.20pm
Patch Adams 12.20pm, 3pm,
5.50pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare
in Love 12noon, 2.40pm, 5.30pm,
8.20pm Urban Legend 12.50pm,
3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm You've
Got M@il 12.10pm, 2.50pm,
5.40pm, 8.50pm VIRGIN TROCADERO

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square Arlington Road 12noon, 3pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Beloved 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.50pm Beloved 1.20pm, 4.50pm, 8.20pm A Bug's Life 11.50am, 2.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm The Opposite of Sex 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Pleassantville 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm This Year's Love 9pm Urban Legend 11.55am, 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Very Bad Things 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@B 12.10pm, 5.40pm, 6.25pm, 8.30pm, 9.20pm WARNER VILLAGE WEST END

CINEMA LONDON LOCALS

ACTON ACTON
PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE
(0181-896 0066) Park Royal
Arlington Road 1.30pm. 4.10pm,
7pm, 9.50pm Beloved 6.40pm
A Bug's Life 1.50pm, 4.10pm,
6.20pm, 8.40pm Patch Adams 8.20pm, 8.40pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Pleasantville 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1.50pm, 4.50pm, 7.30pm, 10pm The Thin Red Line 2pm, 5.30pm, 9pm Urban Legend 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 10.10pm Waking Ned 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm You've Got M@il 1.20pm, 4.10pm,

BARNET ODEON (08705-050007) + High Barnet Artington Road 1.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm A Bug's Life 2.30pm, 4.30pm Patch Adams 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm Pleasantwille 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm \$h speare in Love 6.20pm, 8.40pm Waking Ned 1.10pm, 3pm,

5.10pm, 7pm, 9.15pm BECKENHAM ABC (0870-902 0412) BR: Beckenham Junction A Bug's Life 3.50pm Elizabeth 2.15pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Patch Adams 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm 5.55pm, 8.30pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR: Bexleyheath Arlington Road 1.30pm, 4.05pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm Patch Adams 2.25pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm Pleasantville 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Saving Private Ryan 12.45pm, 4pm, 8pm Shake-speare in Love 1.30pm, 4pm. 6.30pm, 9.10pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 4.55pm, 8.10pm This Year's Love 9.40pm Waking Ned 4.05pm, 6.05pm, 8.05pm, 10.05pm You've Got M@II 12.25pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm, 12.15am

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South A Bug's Life 1.05pm, 3.20pm 6.05pm, 8.40pm Pleasantville 5.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.40, 4.10pm, 7.40pm Waking Ned 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@ii 8.30pm

ABC (0181-461 1278) BR: Catford Patch Adams 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 3pm, 7.30pm CROYDON

CLOCKTOWER (0181-253_1030) BR: East Croydon Central Station 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm (+ short) SAFARI (688 3422) BR. West Croydon A Night at the Roxbury 5.30pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams 5.40pm, 8.35pm The Thin Red Une

CROYDON WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Arlington Road 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm Patch Adams 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Pleas-antrille 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 7.15pm, 9.55pm Shakespeare in Love 9.55pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm

The Thin Red Line 1.40pm, 5.05pm, 8.25pm Waking Ned 2.20pm, 4.40pm 7pm, 9.15pm You've Got M@li 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm WARNER VILLAGE (592 2020) SAFARI (0181-426 0303) O Har-

WARNER VILLAGE (592 2020)

Dagenham Healhway Arlington Road 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm A Bug's Life 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Patch Adams 2pm, 4.20pm, 7.05pm, 9.30pm Pleasantville 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm Shakespeare in Love 5.50pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.55pm, 5.20pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 9.50pm Urban Legend 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.20pm, 9.40pm Waking Ned 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@il 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870vircini UASRUME ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/& Ealing Broadway Arlington Road 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 3.20pm, 7.40pm

EDGWARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) e Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for times Arzoo phone for times Kachche Dhaage phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Hai phone for times Laa Waris phone for times Madeline 6pm You've Got M@I 8.20pm Zakhm phone for times EDMONTON

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990)

O Tottenham Hale Arlington Road 11.50pm, A Bug's Life 12.40pm, 11.50pm, 2pm, 3pm, 3.45pm, 4.20pm, 5.15pm, 6pm 6.30pm, 8.10pm, En-emy of the State 12.10am How Stelemy of the State 12.10am How Stei-la Got Her Groove Back 9.40pm, 12.20am A Night at the Roubury 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.55pm, 10.45pm Patch Adams 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm. 9.20pm Pleasantville 6.45pm Rush 9.20pm Pleasantville 6.45pm Rush Hour 11pm Shakespeare in Love 1.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4.15pm, 8pm, 11.30pm This Year's Love 10pm Urban Legend 8.40pm, 11.15pm La Vita è Beila 1.40pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm Waking Ned 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.45pm, 7.10pm, 9.25pm, 11.40pm Wou've Got M@ii 12.20pm, 2.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm

12.20pm, 2.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm **ELEPHANT AND CASTLE** CORONET (0171-703 4968)

Delegation of Castle Patch Adams ODEON (09705-050007) & High-gate A Bug's Life 2pm, 4pm Little Voice 6.45pm Patch Adams 1pm. 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 3.30pm, 7.35pm Urban

Legend 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Aa Ab Laut Chalen 2.30pm, 9.30pm Arlington Road 11.20am, 1.50pm, 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Arzoo 11am, 1pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Arzoo 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm A Bug's Life 11.10am, 1.20pm, 3.30pm, 6pm Kachche Dhaage 11.30am, 6.15pm Laa Waris 2.30pm, 9.15pm Lal Badshah 6.20pm, 11.20pm A Night at the Roubury 8pm, 10pm Patch Adams 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Pleasantville 11.10am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Saving Private Ryan 1.30pm, 5.10pm, 8.40pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Thin Red Line 11am, 6.10pm, 9.30pm This Year's 6.10pm, 8.50pm The Train Red Line 11am, 6.10pm, 9.30pm This Wear's Love 2.10pm, 7.10pm Urban Legend 11.30am, 4.40pm, 9.40pm Waking Ned 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9pm You've Got M@il 1.20pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm

FINCHLEY ROAD WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3110) & Finchley Road Arlington Road 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm A Bug's Life 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Pleasantville 1.25pm, 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Shakespeare in Love 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm The Thin Red Line 1.20pm, 5pm, 8.40pm This Year's Love 10.25pm Waking Ned 12.40pm, 2.55pm, 5.15pm. 7.30pm, 9.40pm You've Got M@II

Green Patch Adams 2.45pm. 5.45pm, 8.20pm

12.55pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Arlington Road 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm (Fri) Pleas-antwille 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm The Thin Red Line 4.30pm, 8pm

VERGEN (0870-907 0718) - Rovenscourt Park/Hammersmith A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 3pm Shakespeare in Love 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, spm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm Waking Ned 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm You've Gor M@il 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm HAMPSTEAD

ABC 10870-902 0613) © Pels to Park A Bug's Life 1 10pm Patch Adams 2.15pm 5 10pm 2 3dpm Saving Private Ryan 2 45pm. 7.35pm Shakespeare in Love 2.35pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

row-en-the-Hill Arzoo & Jopen Hum Aapke Dii Mein Rehte Hain 8,45pm **WARNER VILLAGE** (0131 ± 07.9000)

O Harross-on-the-Hill Artington Road 11.20am, 2.20pm, 5.40pm, 5.50pm A Bug's Life 1 han, 1.40pm, 4.10pm. A Bug's Life 11, an, 1 40pm, 4 10pm, 6 35pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3 50pm, 6 50pm, 9 30pm Pleasantwille 12,50pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9 40pm Shake-speare in Love 12 40pm, 3 20pm, 5,50pm, 9,10pm This Year's Love 11,30am, 2,10pm, 7,10pm Urban Lessed & 50pm, 8,50pm, 10pm, 7,10pm Urban Lessed & 50pm, 8,50pm, 10pm, Legend 4.50pm, 9.50pm Waking Ned 11.10am, 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@il 12 30pm. 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

HOLLOWAY

ODEON (08705-050007)

Holioway Road Artington Road 12.44/pm.
3.20pm. 6pm. 8.40pm Befored
4.15pm. 7.45pm A Bug's Life 1pm
Patch Adams 1pm. 3.35pm. 6.10pm. 8.45pm Pleasantville 3.20pm, 8.30pm Shakespeare in Love 12.25pm, 3.15pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.50pm This Year's Love 12.55pm, 6.05pm Waking Ned 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.10pm You've Got M@ff 12.40pm, 3.20pm,

брт. 8.40pm

ODEON (08705-050007) & Gants Hill A Bug's Life 1pm, 3.15pm Patch Adams 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Pleasantville 12 25pm, 5.55pm Shakespeare in Love 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.05pm, 7.30pm Waking Ned 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.30pm. 6.40pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@il

TRICYCLE (0171-328 1000) O-Kilburn Waking Ned 7pm. 9.15pm

ABC OPTIONS (0870-902 0409) BR. Kngston Elizabeth 2 10pm, 5 20pm, 8.05pm Patch Adams 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.20pm, S.05pm MUSWELL HILL

3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 1.25pm, 4.35pm, 7.50pm You've Got M@il 8 40pm PECKHAM PREMJER (0181-235 3006) BR. Peckham Rye Arlington Road 4 25pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Beloved 5.10pm, 8.30pm A Bug's Life 3pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 9.50pm, 12midnight A Night at the Roxbury 5 25pm, 7 20pm, 9.20pm Patch Adams 3,10pm Pleasantville

3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.25pm ABC (0870-902 0407) BR. Purley Arlington Road 5 10pm, 8pm Patch Adams 5.40pm, 8.20pm The Thin

PUTNEY ABC (0870-902 0401) BR: Putney Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.30pm B.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.15pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm You've Got M@II 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm RICHMOND ODEON (08705-050007) BR/O Richmond Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8.10pm Waking Ned 1.30pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9 30pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705-050007)

BR: Romford Arilagton Road 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm A Bug's Life 12.05pm, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 8.50pm A Night at

damp [3:05] KNIVETS

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2.35pm, 5pm, 7 25pm The Thin Red Line 4.55pm, 8.20pm Waking Ned

BR/O Richmond Arlington Road 1,50pm, 4,20pm, 6,50pm, 9,20pm A Bug's Life 2,10pm, 4,10pm Patch Adams 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Pleasantville 6.20pm, 9pm You've Got M@il Ipm. 3.50pm.

ABC (0870-902 0419) BR: Romford Arlington Road 2.10pm, 5.40pm. 8.20pm Patch Adams 5.25pm. 8.10pm Pleasantville 2.25pm. 8.15pm You've Got M@if 5 30pm

the Rosbury 12.15pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm Patch Adams 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 6.20pm Shakespeare in Love 12.30pm, 35m, 5.40pm, 8.15pm The Thin Red Une 1pm, 4.15pm, 7.30pm Waking Ned 12.15pm, 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@il 3.30pm, 8.45pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705-050007)

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Parch Adams 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 7.30pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-907 0717) BR: Cricklewood Arlington Road 1pm, 3.45pm. 6.30pm, 9.10pm Patch Adams 1pm. 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm, 11.45pm The Trin Red Line 1,15pm, 4.45pm, 8.20pm Waking Ned 2pm, 4.1-5pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm You've Got M@il 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

STRATFORD NEW STRATEORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford Arlington Road 3.55pm, 6.25pm, 8.55pm A Bug's Life 1.30pm Patch Adams 3.15pm, 8.20pm Pleasantville 3.15pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 1.15pm, 4.35pm. 8pm Waking Ned 2.15pm 4.25pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) BR: Streatham Hill A Night at the Roxbury 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.25pm, 5.35pm, 8.25pm

ODEON (087050-050007) BR: Streatham Hill/O Brixton Be 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm A Bug's Life 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm How Stella Got her Groove Back 6.05pm, 8.35pm Pleasantville 3.10pm, 8.30pm The Thin Red Line 12.40pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm Waking Ned 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm You've Got M@il 12.40pm, 5.50pm

SURREY QUAYS

UCI (0990-888990) & Surrey Quays Arlington Road 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm, 11.45pm A Bug's Life 12.30pm, 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm A Night at the Roodury 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm 8.55pm, 9.30pm, 11.30pm, 6.40pm 8.55pm, 9.30om, 11.30om Patch Adams 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm, 11.50pm Pleasantville 12.15pm, 5.40pm Shakespeare in Love 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm The Thin 3-43pm, 6-40pm, 4-15pm, 8-10pm Red Line 12.40pm, 4-15pm, 8-10pm This Year's Love 8.30pm, 11.30pm Urban Legend 8.30pm, 9.30pm, 12midnight Waking Ned 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm, 11.30pm

SUTTON UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: Sutton/ Morden Arlington Road 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Patch Adams 12.15pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Shakespeare in Love 12.45pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm The Thin Red Line 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm Waking Ned 12.30pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.30pm You've Got M@fi 9pm

SWRSS COTTAGE WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) O East Finchley Arlington Road 12.40pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.30pm Patch Adams 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Pleasantville 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Shakespeare in Love 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.55pm, 9.40pm The Thin Red Line 1.05pm, 4.50pm. 8.30pm Urban Legend 8.40pm La Vita e Bella 5.50pm Waking Ned 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm You've Got M@il 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) & Yum-pike Lane Patch Adams 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm This Year's Love 4.05pm. 6.15pm, 8.40pm Urban Legend 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

ODEON (08705 050007) & Usbridge Arlington Road 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm A Bug's Life 1.10pm, 3.15pm Patch Adams 5.30pm, 8.35pm WALTHAMSTOW

ABC (0870-9020424) - Walthamstow Central A Night at the Rox-bury 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Patch Adams 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm Shakespeare in Love 2.10pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm

THE SCREEN (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames La Vita è Bella 3.25pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Waking Ned 2.35pm, 4.45pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR; Eitham Pleasantville 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm The Thin Red Line 3.30pm,

WILLESDEN BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) ↔ Willesden Green Madeline 4.45pm Shakespeare in Love 6.30pm. 9pm WIMRLEDON

ODEON (08705-050007) BR/e Mimbledon A Bug's Life 1.10pm Wimbleoon A Bug's Life 1.10pm Patch Adams 2.45pm, 5.50pm Pleasantville 8.25pm Shakespeare in Love 2.55pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm The Thin Red Line 12.50pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm Waking Ned 2.30pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm You've Got M@il 12.25

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) & South Woodford Arilington Road 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Patch Adams 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Shakespeare in Love 2.40pm, 5.30pm,

MOOLWICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Arlington Road 3.15pm. 6pm. 8.35pm Patch Adams 3.40pm. 6.05pm. 8.30pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place. SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Memoires d'Immigres: British Premiere (NC) 7pm

ICA The Mall, 5W1 (0171-930 3647) Al Massir - Le Destin (NC) 6pm. 6.30pm Modulations (NC) 6.30pm, 8.45pm

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 3232) The Bitter Tea of General Yen: Anvi Goes (NC) 2.30pm Cartoon Cavalcade (U) 6.15pm Heart's Cry. Cries of the Heart (NC) 6.30pm Funny Games (18) 8.30pm Fire (15) 8.45pm

PHOENIX High Road, N2 (0181-444 6789) Festeri (15) 1.15pm. 3.35pm. 8.45pm La Vita è Bella (PG)

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place, WC2 (0171-437 8181) Good Will Hunting (15) 1.30pm Rush Hour (15) 4.15pm Night on Earth (15) 6.30pm Psycho (15) 9.15pm

THE PULLMAN EVERYMAN Holly Bush Vale, NW3 (0171-606 2345) Devil in a Blue Dress: Introduced Year's Love (18): Urban Legend (18): Very Bad Things (18): Wak-ing Ned (PG): You've Got M@il (PG) by Walter Mosley (15) 8.45pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 3.30pm. 6.10pm

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RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road. W6 (0171-420 0100) Five Easy Pieces (15) 6.45pm + The King of Marvin Gardens 8.50pm

BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) Classe de Neige (NC) 2.30pm. 6.45pmDobermann (18) 4.30pm, 8.45pm π (Pf) (15) 6.30pm High Slerra (NC) 8.30pm

CUBE (0114-907 4191) The Rocky Horror Picture Show (15) 8pm WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Central Station (15) 6pm Dober-mann (18) 6,10pm, 8.30pm The Opposite of Sex (18) 8,40pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444)
Central Station (15) 12.45pm,
7.10pm Aprile (12) 3pm, 9.20pm
La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 5pm

CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Secret Défense (PG) 7pm Hideous Kinky (15) 8pm

NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) Shakespeare in Love (15) 1.30pm Elizabeth (15) 4.15pm

CHICHESTER

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Hideous Kinky (15) 5.45pm La Vita è Bella (PG) 8.15pm

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Bulworth (18) 8pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

VIRGIN (0541-555145); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); Eliz-abeth (15); Madeline (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Patch Adams (12); Payback (18); Pleasantville (12); The Rugarts Movie (U): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Waking Ned (16): Wak (PG): You've Got M@il (PG)

WORLD THE MOVIES (01275-8310991: Aarzoo (PG): Affiction (15); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U): Elizabeth (15): Jack Frost (PG): Little Voice (15); Madeline (U); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Patch Adams (12); Payback (18); Pleasantville (12); The Rugrats Movie (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); The Secret Garden (U); Shakespeare in Love (15): The Swan Princess (U); The Thin Red Line (15); This Year's Love (18); Urban Legend (18); La Vita è Bella (PG) Waking Ned (PG); You've Got M@il (PG)

SHOWCASE (0117-972 3800); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); Little Voice (15): Madeline (U); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Parch Adams (12); Pleasantville (12): Shakespeare in Love (15); The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): The Truman Show (PG): Urban Leg-end (18): Very Bad Things (18): Waking Ned (PG): You've Got M@il (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007): Antz (PG); A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG): Patch Adams (12): Pavback diers (PG); The Truman Show (PG): Velvet Goldmine (18); Waking Ned (PG): You've Got M@ft (PG)

LEICESTER WARNER VILLAGE (0116-282 7733); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U): Elizabeth (15); Flubber (U); Jack Frost (PG); Litde Voice (15); Madeline (U); Patch Adams (12); Payback (18); Pleas-

NORWICH ABC CINEMA (01603-623312): Antz (PG); A Bug's Life (U); Jack Frost (PG); A Night at the Roxbury (15): The Parent Trap (PG): Patch ns (12): The Rugrats Movie (U): Shakespeare in Love (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Waking

OXFORD ABC GEORGE STREET (01865-

251998); Arlington Road (15); Patch Adams (12); The Rugrats Movie (U); The Thin Red Line (15); You've Got M@ll (PG)

ABC MAGDALEN STREET (01865 251998); A Bug's Life (U); Shake PORTSMOUTH

ABC CINEMA (01705-823538): A Night at the Roxbury (15): Patch Adams (12): The Rugrats Movie (U); Saving Private Ryar (15): Shakespeare in Love (15)

UCI 6 (0870-603 4567): 54 (15): The Acid House (18): Arlington Road (15): A Bug's Life (U): Eliz-abeth (15): Madeline (U): Patch Adams (12): The Rugrats Movie (U): Shakespeare in Love (15): There's Something About Mary (15): The Thin Red Line (15): king Ned (PG); You've Got M@IJ (PG)

READING ABC CINEMA (0118-957 3931): The Daytrippers (15); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Patch Adams (12); The Rugrats Movie (U); Shakespeare in Love (15)

ODEON (08705-050007): Arlington Road (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): A Bug's Life (U): Madeline (U): The Parent Trap (PG): Payback (18): Pleasantville (12): Small Soldlers (PG): The Thin Red Line (15)

SHOWCASE (0118-974 7711); Arlington Road (15); A Bug's Life (U); Little Voice (15); Madeline (U); A Night at the Roxbury (15); Adams (12); Pleasar (12): Saving Private Ryan (15): (12): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): The Thin Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Urban Legend (18): Waking Ned (PG): You've Got M@II (PG)

SOUTHAMPTON ODEON LEISURE WORLD (01703-222111): Arlington Road (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Blade (18); A Bug's Life (U); Dr Dolltde (PG): Enemy of the State (15); Jack Frost (PG); Little Voice (15); Lock Frost (PG): Little Voice (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): Madeline (U): Mulan (U): A Night at the Roxbury (15): Patch Adams (12): Payback (18): Pleasantville (12): The Rugrats Movie (U): Saving Private Ryan (15): Shakespeare in Love (15): Small Soldiers (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): There's Something About Mary (15): The This Red Line (15): This Year's Love (18): Urban Legend

THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for torunning times and prices for the week; running times include intervals.

— Seats at all prices D — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

 AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's acclaimed drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-494 5372/cc 494 5372) BR/O Waterico. Mon-5at 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 3pm. £7.50-£30. 180 mins. ■ ANIMAL CRACKERS Stage

version of the Marx Brothers' clas-sic from the Royal Exchange The DEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lav-

ish family musical based on Dis-ney's cartoon version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm. £18.50-£35. 150 mins. • BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing

Cal melourama. Prioens Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ◆ Lek: Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5] 3.00pm. [7] 4.00pm. £11.50-£32.50. 165 mins. DCATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New Lon-

D CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Nicola Davies star in this hit Broadway musical Adelphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) ♦ Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [4][7] 3pm. £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130 mins.

3.00pm. £10.50-£35. 165 m

COPENHAGEN Drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) © Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5[[7] 2.30pm, £10-£30, 145 mins. • DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little stars in this witty and

ware Little stars in this widy and wise comedy about the sexes. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 8.45pm. £5-£25, concs available. O GOOD Charles Dance in C P Taylor's deceptively humorous drama. Donmar Warehouse Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) Covent Gar

den. Tonight 7pm, ends 22 May. £14-£22, concs available. ● GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film starring Darren Day. Cambridge Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) ↔ Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm. £10-£32.50. 150 mins.

• GROSS INDECENCY: THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE Michael Pennington and William Hoyland in Moses Kaufman's reconstruction of the downfall of the celebrated playwright. Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 2.30pm. £7.50-£29.50.

I AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Dakiry's widely-acclaimed production of J B Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road. WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5.00pm. F12-F29 50 110 mins £12-£29,50, 110 mins.

MACBETH Rufus Sewell and Sally Dexter portray thwarted ambition. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040/ cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [7] 2.30pm, ends 5 Jun. £10.50-£28.50. 140 mins.

antville (12): The Rugrats Movie
(U): Shakespeare in Love (15): The
Thim Red Line (15): This Year's Love
(18): Urban Legend (18): Waking
Ned (PG): You've Got M@il (PG)

ITO.50-£28.50. 140 mins.

THE MEMORY OF WATER Allison Steadman and Stella Gonet star in this touching comedy about sisters
returning home for their mother's fire neral. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/+ Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5][7] 3pm. E8-£27.50. 120 mins.

O LES MISÉRABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm. £7-£35, 195 mins.

• MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Modom Butter fly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) & Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3.00pm. £8.50-£35, 165 mlns.

● THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnit St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) ♣ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00pm, [3] 2.45pm, [7] 5.00pm. £10-£24.50.

 OKLAHOMA! Maureen Linman stars in the National's acclaimed production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's cowboy v farmhand musical, Lyceum Wellington Street, WC2 (0870-606 3446) & Charing X/Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, 141171 2 30pm, ends 7.30 km. [4][7] 2.30pm, ends 26 Jun. £10-£35. 180 mins.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Hay-market, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 0171-344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3.00pm. £10-£35. 150 mins.

THE PRISONER OF SECOND AWENUE Richard Dreyinss and Mar-sha Mason star in Neil Simon's com-edy about a mid-life crisis. Theatre Royal, Haymarket Haymarket, SW1

● RENT Musical inspired by La Bohame and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) → Holbom/Fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm. E12.50-E32.50. 160 mins.

I RECHARD ID Robert Lindsay stars as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171-836 0479) Tube/BR: Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm, ends 27 Mar. £10-£27.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE O COTTESLOE: Guiding Star Jonathan Harvey's play gives a ten-der account of the life of Hillsborough

disaster survivor. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 5 Apr. 150 mlns. > LYTTELTON: The College Bawn Dion Boucicault's drama of love and intrigue across the classes in 19th century Ireland. In rep. tonight

7.30pm, ends 27 Mar. ● OLIVIER: Trollus and Cressida Shakespeare's reinvention of Homer. In rep, tonight 7pm, ends 19 May. 150 mins. Office & Lyttleton: £9-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) BR/+ Waterloo.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY THE PIE Goodnight Children
Everywhere An evacuee returns
home after the war in Richard Neinome anter the war in Stonard Net-son's moving drama. In rep, tonight 7.15pm, ends 27 Apr. Barbican Theatre: £5-£26. The Pit £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, £C2 (0171-638.8891)

◆ YOUNG VIC: Bartholomew Fair Jonson's intensely theatrical dra-ma. In rep. tonight 7.15pm. RSC at the Young Vic £14-£20. The Cur, SE1 (0171-928 6363) BR/◆ Waterloo.

) SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER HIL 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) Oxford Grc. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm. £10-£32.50. 135 mlns.

) SHOCKHEADED PETER Junk opera, featuring the Tiger Lillies. Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7-30pm. [7] 2-30pm, ends 10 Apr. E5-£18.

 SLAVA'S SNOWSHOW Slave Polounine returns to London with his mesmeric show that takes all ages back to the realms of childish delight. Piccadilly Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. n-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm.) STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-

cal Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3.00pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins. TRUST Gary Mitchell's explosive new drama. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7pm, ends 3 Apr. £10.

 VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her downtrodden family. Afbery St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-369 1730) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7]

3pm, ends 27 Mar. £5-£29.50 THE WEIR Conor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of ghosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-565 5000) ← Leic So/Char-ing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm. £5-£25. 90 mins.

• WEST SIDE STORY New production of Bernstein's classic ma attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince of Wales Coventry Street. W1 (0171-839 5987) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5][7] 3pm. £18.50-£35. 160 mins.

O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000/cc 836 2428) → Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm. £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

) THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street. WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE Speer Klaus Maria Brandauer in Esther Vilar's tantalising drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Sat 3pm. ends 27 Mar. £9.50-£19.50. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) → Angel.

SOUTHWARK PLAYHOUSE Cleaning Multi-layered Hungarian work from Peter Nadas. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 17 Apr. £8, concs £5. Mon - all seats £3 Southwark Bridge Road. SE1 (0171-620 3494)

TRISTAN BAYES THEATRE, THE ian & Life's a Drag Two new plays from Steve Message, Mon-Sat 6pm, ends 27 Mar. £5, concs £4. Tower Street. WC2 (0171-240 3940) Celcester Souare

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

THEATRE ROYAL Suddenly Last Summer Tennessee Williams' ing tale of motherly love starring Sheila Gish as a wealthy widow determined to avenge the mysterious death of her only son. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £9-£22.50, concs available. Sawclose (01225-

BILLINGHAM BILLINGHAM FORUM Lanza -The Last Serenade A musical tribthe to legendary singer Mario Lan-za. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 27 Mar. £8-£14, concs available. Town Centre (01642-552663)

BIRMINGHAM ALEXANDRA THEATRE Oliver! Gary Wilmont stars in Lionel Bart's Dickensian musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm. ends 19 Jun. £10-£32.50. Suffolk Street (0121-643 1231)

BIRMINGHAM REP The Birthday Party Husband and wife team Timothy West and Prunella Scales in Pinter's modern classic. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 27 Mar. £7.25-£19. Broad Street.(0121-236 4455)

BRACKNELL. WILDE THEATRE On the Piste John Godber's raunchy comedy gives us a revealing insight into ski-ing holidays. Contains nudity. Tonight 8pm, ends 24 Mar. £10, concs £8. South Hill Park (01344-484123)

BRISTOL HIPPODROME THEATRE Phantom of the Opera Tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's huge hit musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat, 2.30pm, ends 22 May, £10-£30, concs available. St Augustines Parade (0117-929 9444)

NEW VIC STUDIO Sixteen Play about two anxious teenagers, poignantly recount their first sexual experience. Mon-Wed 7.30pm. Fri & Sat 8pm. ends 27 Mar. concs £6. King Street (0117-987 7877)

THEATRE ROYAL The Price Com-pelling drama about two estranged brothers, each of whom carries a brothers, each of whom carries a burning truth which neither have dared face: now they must pay the price. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm. mats Thur & Sat 2.30pm, ends 10 Apr. E3-E19, concs available. King Street (0117-987 7877)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

First Cali IF YOU HAVEN'T had a chance to see these delectable divas strutting their stuff on the London stage, then take advantage of this national tour. With immense humour Fascinating Aida (right) project their luminous voices filled with controversial politics and gossip. From Jerry "my wife's a transsexual" Springer to Clinton's cigars, Dillie Keane, Adele Anderson and Issy van Randwyck leave no GM banana skin unturned.

Venue information from www.fascinating.aida.co.uk or on 0171-580 6792 to 27 Jun

THE FICKLE pop world has been kind to Deacon Blue, who decided to reform for a one-off charity gig, only to add another date when demand exceeded all expectation. Since their break-up, some of the founding band members have forged new careers. Ricky Ross has gone solo, while Dougie Vipond can be seen presenting on TV, so despite a surprising number of hit singles, such as "Fergus Sings the Blues", "Real Gone Kid" and "Wages Day", and five million album sales to their credit, it's uncertain whether a permanent reunion is on the cards. Clyde Auditorium, Glosgow (0141-287 777) 1 Jun

NEW THEATRE Things We Do for Love Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy about a middle

aged woman . Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends 27 Mar. E8-£18, concs avail-able. Park Place (01222-878889) CHELTENHAM EVERYMAN THEATRE The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) Reduced Spalespeare (Abridged) Reducts
Shakespeare Company fast-forwards
through 37 plays. Mon-Fri 7.45pm,
Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £5-£15.
concs available. Regent Street

COLCHESTER Lakeside Theatre. University of Essex Richard III Malachi Bogdanov's provocative adaptation of the Shake-speare classic. Tonight 7.30pm. £6.50, concs £4.30. Wivenhoe Park (01206-873261)

(01242-572573)

MERCURY THEATRE The Ladykillers Stage adaptation of the 1955 Ealing Comedy classic about a group of robbers who use the house of a little old lady to plan a job. Mon-Wed 7.30pm. Thur-Sat 8pm, mat 25 Mar. 3pm. ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£15.50. oncs available. Balkerne Gate (01206-573948)

EXETER NORTHCOTT THEATRE Buried Africe Philip Osment's play about a photographer who captures a par-ticularly horrific execution on film. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £7-£15 Stocker Road (01392-493493)

HORNCHURCH QUEEN'S THEATRE Misery Stage adaptation of Stephen King's notorious horror story. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 10 Apr. £8.50-£12.50. concs £5.50-£7.50. Billet Lane (01708-443333)

LEEDS WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: COURTYARD THEATRE Intimate Exchanges - Affairs in a Tent The first of Alan Ayckbourn's poignant trilog: Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed & Sat 2pm, ends 27 Mar. £8-£17. concs £5.50-£14.50.

Playhouse Square (0113-213 7700) WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: QUARRY THEATRE Wuthering Heights Stage adaptation of Emily Bronté's haunting story of the unconbronie's naming stary of the incon-trolled grand passion between Cathy and Heathcliff, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mais Thur 2pm, Sat 3pm, ends 27 Mar. £9-£17. concs £6-£14.50. Playhouse Square (0113-213 7700)

LOCHGELLY LOCHGELLY CENTRE Beyond the Pale Topical political satire by James McNulty. Mon-Fri 9.30am-9.30pm, Sat & Sun 9.30am-4.30pm. ends 30 Apr. free. Bank Street (01592-418141)

NORTHAMPTON THE DERNGATE Popcorn Ben Elton's satire on cinema violence.

Mon-Thur 8pm, Fri & Sat 6pm & 9pm, ends 25 Mar. £8-£18.

concs available. Gulldhall Road (01604-624811)

NORWICH UEA STUDIO, UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA Cracked Hard-hitting look at depression in young people. Tonight 7.30pm. £5. concs £3. The Plain (01603-592272)

OLDHAM COLISEUM THEATRE Wait Until Dark A young blind woman is sub-jected to a terrifying game of cat and mouse. Mon-Thur & Sat 7.30pm, Fri 8pm, ends 27 Mar. £10 50-£12 50. (0161-624 2829)

PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL Hamlet Paul Rhys stars as the ill-fated Prince of Denmark in Laurence Boswell's taut new production. Mon. Tue, Thur-Sat 7pm. mat Sat 1pm. ends 27 Mar. £6-£14. Royal Parade South (01752-267222)

READING THE MILL AT SONNING Laura Stage adaptation of the 1940s film thriller. Mon-Sat 8.15pm (dinner 6.15pm), mat Sat 2.15pm (lunch 12.30pm), ends 27 Mar. £21.95-£32.95 incl meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE A Midsummer Night's Dream Michael Boyd directs Josette Simon and Nicholas Jones in the magical summer classic. Mon-Wed, Fri 7.30pm, ends 9 Oct. £5-£39. Waterside (01789-295623)

Malcolm Storry plays the avaricious hero in Jonson's exuberant satire In rep. tonight 7,30pm, ends 9 Oct. £5-£36. Waterside (01789-295623) PALACE THEATRE The Late Middle Classes Harold Pinter direct Simon Gray's study of family conflic

Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat

SWAN THEATRE Volpone

8pm, ends 10 Apr. £4-£15.75. concs available. Clarendon Road (01923-225671) WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA CLIFFS PAVILION Pirates of Penzance Paul Nicholas stars in this swash-buckling reworking of the Gilbert and Sullivan classic. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Wed 2.30pm, ends 27 Mar. £14.50-£22.50, concs available. Station Road (01702-351135)

EXHIBITIONS CLASSICAL

BATH MUSEUM OF COSTUME Primitive Streak: Helen Storey and Dr Kate Storey Collaboration between a fashion designer and a biologist. Mon-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.90, concs £3.50, child £2.90, group concs. Assembly Room Bennett Street (01225-477789)

HALL PLACE The Incisive Eye: HALL PLACE The thicknesses systems tookin See-Paynton Wood engravings by the leading artist. Mon-Sat 10am-4.15pm, ends 18 Apr, free. Bourne Road (01322-526574)

BRECON THEATR BRYCHEINIOG The Poems of Jules Laforgue: Patrick Caulfield Prints by the Pop artist, based on the work of the French poet. Mon-Sat 10am-Spm. ends 18 Apr. free. Canal

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Mary Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's largely figurative paintings. Mon, Tue. Thur-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 28 Mar, free. Church Street (01273-290900)

ARNOLFINI Accelerator Work by an international group of contemporary artists, including Hilary Lloyd, Ako Sasao and Suzy Spence. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm. Sun 12noon-6pm. ends 28 Mar. free. Narrow Quay (0117-929 9191) EXETER

BRISTOL

MUSEUM The Art of Hilda Carline: Mrs Stanley Spencer The first major exhibition dedicated to the paintings of Spencer's first wife. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 3 May. free. Queen Street (01392-265858) BARBICAN ART GALLERY Africa

ROYAL ALBERT MEMORIAL

by Africa: A Photographic View More than 200 image s from sub-Saharan Africa, Ends 29 Mar. Picasso and Photography: The Dark Mirror More than 300 works explore the Spanish master's relationship with photography. Mon. Thur-Sat 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm, Wed 10am-7.45pm, Sun 12noon-6.45pm, ends 29 Mar. £5, concs £3, from Mon-Fri 53 after 5pm, 57k Street, EC2 (0171-638 4141) + Barbican

DESIGN MUSEUM Mini: 40 Years of a Design toon Mini's designed by celebrities mark the 40th anniversary of the vehicle. Ends 9 May. Modern Britain 1927-1939 A study on the important period after the Great War including the work of Francis Bacon, Paul Nash and Barbara Hepworth, Mon-Sun 11.30am 6pm, ends 18 Jul. £5.25, concs £4 (to museum). Shad Thames, SE1 (0171-378 6055) & Tower Hill

NATIONAL GALLERY Portraits by Ingres Major exhibition of paintings and drawings by the 19th-century French artist. Ends 25 Apr. £6, concs E4. Wed E4 7pm-10pm.

Orazio Gentileschi at the Court of Charles I Rare exhibition expl the work of the 17th-century Italian artist. Ends 23 May, free.

Rogier Van Der Weyden in the National Gallery Paintings by the 15th-century Dutch artist. Mon. Tue, Thur-Sun 10am-6pm, Wed 10am-9pm, ends 4 Jul, free. Trafalgar Square. WC2 (0171-747 2885) Charing Cross ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Monet in the 20th Century Eighty paintings made in the 26 years after 1900. Mon-

Thur, Sun 9am-6pm, Fri & Sat 9am-

10pm, ends 18 Apr. 29, concs £6, child (12-18) E3. child (8-11) E1.50. Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-300 8000) & Green Park TATE GALLERY Art Now 17: Works on Paper and Paintings: Francis Ba-con Paintings and drawings previously unknown. Ends 2 May. free. Pharmacy: Damien Hirst Installa-

tion exploring modern medicine. Ends 2 May, free. Jackson Poliock Major painting retrospective of Abstract Expressionist works. Ends 6 Jun. 27.50, concs E5, family £19 (Firstcall 0870-842 2233 + £1.60 bkg fee).

Turner's Last Papers 1820-51 Examining the paper Turner used for his later work. Ends 13 Jun, free. When Robots Rule - The One Minute Airplane Factory: Chris Burden In-stallation of flying planes explores contemporary life. Ends 27 Jun, free. Dangerous Liasons: Rodin and Gwen John Exploring the relation-ship bewteen the artist lovers. Ends 11 Jul Free

Dangerous Liasons: Barbara Hep-worth and Ben Nicholson Exam-ming the cross fertilisation of the couple. Mort-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 11 Jul. free. Millbank. SW1 (0171-887 8000) + Pimlico

NORWICH ARTS CENTRE India 50 - Working People: Sebastiao Salgado The top photographer portrays Indian life. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-4pm. ends 8 Apr, free. Reeves Yard, St Benedict's Street (01603-660352)

ST IVES TATE GALLERY Quoit Montserrat: Veronica Ryan Marble sculpture link-ing St Ives with Montserrat Mon-Sat 11 Apr. E3.50. Porthmeor Beach (01736-796226)

LONDON QUEEN EUZABETH HALL London Soloists Chamber Orchestra/Josefouritz Chopin's 1st Piano Concerto and Bizer's Symphony in C. Tonight 7.45pm. £7-£15. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterloo

WIGMORE HALL Joseph Kalichstein Piano recital of Brahms and Schu-mann. Today 1 pm. £7, concs £5. Rivka Golani Bach and Schumann on the viola. Tonight 7.30pm. £7-£14. Wigmore Street. WI (0171-935 2141) & Bond Street.

OPERA LONDON BLOOMSBURY THEATRE Univer-

sity College London Opera Performance of Tchaikovsky's opus Mazeppa, based on Pushkin, Tonight 7,30pm, ends 27 Mar. £7-£18. Gordon Street, WC1 (0171-388 8822)

DANCE SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE Northern Ballet Theatre: Dracula Spine-

chilling adaptation of Stoker's famous vampire story choreographed by Gable and Barrett-Pink. Mon-Sat 7.30 pm. ends 27 Mar. £7.50-£32.50. Rosebery Avenue, £C1 (0171-863 8000) & Angel. SWINDON WYVERN THEATRE English National Ballet: Tour de Force Extracts from five distinctive and

LITERATURE

exciting ballets. 22 & 23 Mar,

7.30pm. £6-£16, concs available Theatre Square (01793-524481)

HILDA AS STANLEY'S MUSE Stanley Spencer's biographer Kenneth Pople examines Hilda Carline through the artist's representations of her in his paintings and drawings. Royal Albert Memorial Museum Queen Street (01392-265858) Tonight 7pm, £3, concs £2.

LONDON JOSEPH HELLER The author of Catch 22 and Something Hoppened, presents his long-awaited autobiography. Croydon Clocktower, Braith-waite Hall Tonight 7.30pm. £6, copes 65 Katharine Street Crowlon BR: Croydon East (0181-253 1030)

KATHERINE GALLAGHER, JEAN SPRACKLAND AND PAULINE PLUMMER Dynamic performances Coffee House Tonight 8pm. £4.50, concs £3.50. Old Brompton Road, SW5 & Earls Court (0181 354 0660)

COMEDY

LONDON THE MONDAY CLUB AT MADAME JO JO'S With Omid Djalili, Stephen K Amos and Gordon Southern plus compere Ross Noble, Tonight 9pm. £6, concs £5. Brewer Street, W1 (0171-734 2473) & Piccadilly Circus

THE COMEDY STORE North By North West with Paul Thorne, Anvil Springstien, Steve Gribbin, Paul Zenon, Lee Mack, Tony Burgess and Jeff Green, plus MC Simon Bligh. Tonight 8pm. £11, concs £8. Oxendon Street, SWI (0171-344 0734) & Piccardibil Closue. 0234) Piccadlily Circus

OXFORD THE COMEDY STAGE AT OX ONE Starring Andy Parsons and Ian Moore. Tonight 8.30pm. £7. New Road (01865-250099)

PORTSMOUTH COMEDY AT PORTSMOUTH UNI-VERSITY Chris Addison and Howard Read offer stand up, with special guests. Tonight 9pm. £3. Museum guests. Tonight 9pm. Road (01705-843640)

CLUBS

DISCO BARBIE AT THE HONEY. CLUB Slamming disco tunes, free to those in fancy dress. Tonight 10pm-2.30am. £3, concs £1. King's Road Arches (01273-202807)

BRIGHTON

LONDON
HEADSET AT POINT 101 Karminsky Experience deliver easy-listening rhythms. Tonight 8.30pm-late, free, New Oxford Street, W1 (0171-379 3112) & Tottenham Court Road. THE ORIGINAL KITCAT AT THE METRO The gothic years relived with the original Kitcat DJs. Tonight 10.30pm-3.30am. £4. £2 before 12midright. Oxford Street, W1 (0171-437 1660) & Tottenham Court Road.

TRASH AT PLASTIC PEOPLE James

EVENTS

HITS UNDER THE HAMMER AND tion of music memorabilia raising money for Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy and Norwood Ravenswood children's charities. Sound Repub-Ric Wardour Street, W1 (0181-420 6820) & Leicester Square/Piccadil-ly Circus. Torught Open. £12 50 in adv.

MUSIC

BRISTOL DAVID GRAY The singer songwriter who featured in the recent movie, This Year's Lure, on lour with a new album, While Ludder. Fleece &

CATATONIA The big-voiced Cerys Matthews and her chart topping student-rock outfit. Corn Exchange Wheeler Street (01223-357851).

abundant strident guitar Barfly at The Falcon Royal College Street NW1 (0171-482 4808) O Camden Town. Tonight 8pm ±5, concs £3 50. KHAYA, THE REYNOLDS The latest hot prospects of the Scottish lo-fi phenomenon. The Red Eye

THE VANDALS Australian/US bardcore velerans with a touch of garage. core veterans with a toben or garage-trash vibe. The Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607 1818) & Highbury & Islington, Tonight 9pm, £7.50.

synth-pop crooner of the 198us. The Stables Stockwell Lane, Wavendon MK17 (01908-583928), Tonight 8pm. £12.50-£16.50,

WOLVERHAMPTON ORBITAL, PLAID British electronica scene-leaders on their Middle Of

Nowhere tour Civic Hall North Street

(01902-552121) Tonight 8pm. €12.

BIRMINGHAM ZZ BOP Funky bop outfit featuring saxist Tom Hifl. Bear Tavern High Street, Bearwood (0121-429 1184) Tonight 8pm, £4, concs £3. BIRMINGHAM CONSERVATOIRE

house Sheepcote Street (0121-200 2223). Tonight 8pm, free. COURTNEY PINE The high profile

(0121-643 4525) Tonight 8pm. £17.50, concs £11.50.

JOHN BARNES The seasoned in-

8pm. phone for prices COLCHESTER JULIE FELIX The sweet-toned 1960s

RAY GELATO The top swing tenorist in the Illinois Jacquet mould. 100 Club Oxford Street WI (0171-636 0933) Oxford Circus. Tonight 7.30pm. £8. mems £7. KENNY WERNER TRIO Debut Lon-

THREE BARTTONE SAXOPHONES BAND Ronnie Cuber, Charles Davis and Gary Smulyan pay homage to Gerry Mulligan, Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747/cc 439 0747) & Leicester Square, Tonight 9pm & 11.30pm, £15, mems £4.

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Firkin St. Thomas Street (0117-927 7150) Tonight Spm. £6. CAMBRIDGE

FEEDER Enic indic crew featuring

Copenhagen Street N1 (0171-837 1060) ◆ King's Cross Tunight 8pm £5, £3.50 cancs.

HOWARD JONES Return of the

form their hits, "5-6-7-8" and "Tragedy". Apollo Theatre George Street (0870-606 3500) Fonight

STEPS Chart dance-pop ountet per

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

JAZZ ORCHESTRA Varied pro-gramme from polished student big band. Flddle & Bone at The Round-DJ-driven contemporary jazz saxo-phonist. Ronnie Scott's Broad Street

ternational saxophonist joins the Severn Jazzmen. Old Duke King Street (0117-927 7137). Tonight CANTERBURY

FAIRPORT CONVENTION, ANNA RYDER Vintage folk-rock from the Cropredy crew. Marlowe Theatre The Friars (01227-787787) Tonight folk singer and poetess. Colchester Arts Centre St Mary-at-the-Walls. Church Street (01206-500900)

lonight 8pm. £6,

LONDON

don appearance from the NY outside inside planist. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street. W (0171-439 8722) & Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 9pm. £15.

CAROL KIDD Scotland's fine vocalist in a cabaret programme. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge. SW1 (0171-235 5273) & Hyde Park Corner. Junight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £20, £18 in adv. THREE BARITONE SAXOPHONES

PARKER-MOHOLO QUARTET Free jazz meets township partnership. Vortex Stoke Newington Church Street, N16 (0171-254 6516) BR: Stoke Newington. Tonight 8pm. £6 ્ર₁₉₅ ™ 00 200

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MONDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Zoë Ball. See Pick of the Day. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 2.00 Mark Raddiffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles, 5.45 Newsbeat, 6.00 Dave Pearce. 8.00 Lamacq Live. 12.00 The reezeblock 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Cive Warren.

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9,30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stew art. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Humphrey Lyttelion. 8.00 Big Band Special 8.30 Jools Holland, 9.30 Mark Lamarr: Shake, Rattle and Roll. 10.30 Richard Alfinson, 12.00 Katrina Leskanich, 3.0 - 4.0 Mo Dutta.

RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week TLOO Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Franz Schubert.

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Live from the Wigmore Hall, lyingdon. Donald Madeod introduces another recital in the series featuring leading pianists. Joseph Kalichstein (piano). Mendelssohn: Fantasia in F sharp minor, Op 28 (Sonate ecosse). Brahms: Six Pieces. Op 118 (excerpts). Schumann: Kreisleriana 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Opera in Action. 4.45 Music Machine. (R)

5.00 in Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. Live from the BBC Maida Vale studios, London. Conductor Andrew Davis, Delius: Dance Rhapsody No 1; Once I Passed through a Populous City. 8.05 Delius and Yorkshire. Delius was born in Bradford, but his Yorkshire roots appear very little in his music, and he was certainly keen to escape the family business, journeying to America and eventually to France, where he settled. But the "North Country Sketches", written in _13 and 1914, are an exception and evoke the landscape and atmosphere of the moors. Lyndon Jenkins traces the connections between the music of the sketches and the feelings Delius had for his native York-

8.25 Concert, part 2. Four Old Engiish Lyrics; North Country Sketches.

6.00 Army (1981) (75561). 8.00 Helio Aggin

(1987) (80218), **10.00** Angels in the Attic (1997) (61938), **12.00** Amy (1981) (810667).

1.45 Helo Again (1987) (57130358), 3.30

The Barry Norman Interview (3377). 4.00 Angels in the Artic (1997) (8193). 6.00 The

71st Academy Awards (4486006). See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Full Monty (1997)

(† 1483). **11.35** Powder (1995) (736803). **12.0** Feast of July (1995) (87679). **2.30** Ma-

7.00 Femmes Fatales (45551), 7.30 Movie

Magic (1247936). 8.15 Action Heroes (2962716). 9.00 Roseanne: An Unautho-

44822). 1.30 Movie Magic (5318280). 2.15

Action Heroes (7380071). 3.00 Roseanne: An Unauthorized Blography (1994) (51272).

5.00 Something Borowed, Something Blue (1997) (17629). 7.00 A Fight for Justice (1996) (32087). 9.00 Stranger in the House (1996) (88629). 11.00 Showdown (1993)

(762613). 12.40 Loverboy (1989) (595014). 2.20 Island of Dr Moreau (1996) (24743).

4.00 Addiction (1997) (8910897), 5.25 -

7.00 A Fight for Justice (1996) (64125168).

4.00 The Yellow Canary (1944) (7863735).

Catch-22 (1970) (2278629), 10.00 A Fistful

y. 11.40 The Bawdy Adventures of Tom Fres (1976) (7988342). 1.15 Rainbow (1989) (7334897). 3.10 Gypsy (1962)

6.00 Sweet Smell of Success (1957)

The Madness of King George (1994) (4893803). 10.00 A Private Function

(1985) (8875071). 11.40 LA Takedown

4.00 Rex Hunts Fishing Adventures

5.00 Hitler-Stalin Dangerous Liaisons

(9136525) 6.00 Wildlife SOS (1756700) 6.30 Untarned Africa (3752087). 7.30 ru-

tureworld (1849464), 8,00 Nick's Quest

9.00 The Day the Earth Shook (8555-

aisons (7997554), 2.00 Close.

(2481993), 8.30 Twisted Tales (7231290).

10.00 Amazing Earth (8452342), 11.00 Wings (8412193), 12.00 Amazing Earth

(9063323), 1.00 Hitler-Statin Dangerous U

(1993) (7905110) 2.50 - 6.00 The Train

(1942551). **4.30** The Car Show (1948735).

(40106700). 7.35 Syrup (2642358). 8.00

16826261). 1.15 Darkness in Tallin

(58333033), **5.30** Close

(1965) (56103965).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

FILMFOUR

rized Biography (1994) (17280). 11.00 Something Borrowed, Something Blue

(1997) (91464), **1.00** Ferrmes Patalos

or League (1989) (923304).

SKY MOVIEMAX

While still a stripling, the

AS A NATION wakes to find out 'Wood. The Afternoon Play (2.15pm R4), Sunday Morning at the Centre of the World, is his bizarre tribute in kind: an evocation of the inner lives of those in Earlsfield, south London, "almost sunny, always grubby". The "characters" include Death-Wish Debbie, Thrombotic Bert novelist Louis de Bernières was and the experiment doesn't quite translate.

DOMINIC CAVENDISH



6.00 Stx O'Clock News. 6.30 Just a Minute. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 735 Front Row, Francine Stock with the arts programme. 7.45 The Cry of the Bittern, An environmental drama by Tim Jackson. 8.00 NEWS; Men in Black. 'Daily

three programmes, Rosemary Hartill meets some of the characters in and around Ushaw College, Co Durham, seminaries in Britain today. She discovers what is taught and why the graffitiks in Latin.

my relies on a cushlon of confidence to prosper. What is this confidence, how is it generated, and who is trying to manage it? Bridget Rosewell offers some psychoanalysis to help the economy back to health. 9.00 NEWS; Nature. The Hound of Spring'. Nick Baker visits Comwall to salute the arrival of spring and to find out whether the season is getting earlier each year. There is also a chance to help with the forthcoming series of 'Springwatch'.
9.30 Start the Week: Radio 4 at The Word. Jeremy Paxman and his guests set the cultural agenda for

10.00 The World Tonight. With Justin Webb. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Radio 4 at The Word

11.00 Muse of Fusion. By Tanka Gupta. The Asian music scene is raw and sexy. Scratching, bhangra and rap all play their part in an exploding club scene. Firoz, a talented DJ, adds poetry to this fusion of sound. After a tragic accident, he retreats to his room and nothing his sister Zabeen can do will get him out. However, an important gig is on the horizon. With Nabil Elouabhi and Parminder K Nagra. Director Kristine l andon-Smith 11.30 Crossing Over. (R)

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Raymond Carver Short Stories. (R) 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW

(198kHz.) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00. • 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament. **RADIO 5 LIVE**

(693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra.

author of 'The Glory Game', talks about his time as a Tottenham Hotspur supporter.

8.00 Teenage Fan Club. 5 Live opens up the airwaves to young football fans who have something to say about the modern game. Call free on 0500 909693.

10.00 Late Night Live. Nick Robinson sets tomorrow's agenda today. including at 1030 a full round-up of the day's sport, and at 11.00 a late news briefing.

1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM (100.0-101.9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Michael Mappin. 6.30 Newsnight, 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. Sinding: Rustle of Spring. Joseph Cooper (piano). Copland: Appalachian Spring. Los Angeles PO/Leonard Bernstein. Havdn: The Seasons (Spring). English Baroque Soloists/John Ellot Gardiner. Stravinsky: The Pitte of Spring. LPO/Kent Nagano. Gurney: Desire in Spring. Anthony Rolfe Johnson (tenor), David Willison (piano) 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 . 6.00 Mark Griffiths. VERGEN RADIO

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz

6.30 Chris Evans, 9.30 Russ Williams. 100 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 6.45 London Calling with Harriet Scott/AM Pete and Geoff. 7.30 Pete and Geoff. 10.00 Mark Forrest, 100 James Merritt. 4.30 - 6.30 Richard Allen.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW) 1.00 The World Today, 1.30 West-

way. 1.45 Record News. 2.00 The World Today, 2.30 Warm World. 3.00 The World Today. 3.20 Sports Roundup, 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today (4.00-7.00). TALK RADIO

6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrari. 9.00 Scott Chisholm and Sally James. 12.00 Let's Talk Soap with Tina Baker. 100 Anna Raeburn - Live and Direct. 4.00 The SportZone, 8.00 James Whale. 1.00 - 6.00 Ian Collins.

Alternative: The Brittas Empire (2222261)

9.00 Casualty (27526025), 10.05 Stient Witness (1591735), 12.00 The Bill

(5885507). **12.30** The BE (9984110), **1.00**

Blackadder Goes Forth (9338878). **1.35** French and Saunders (58174830). **2.05**

Dangerfield (8172014). 3.00 - 7.00 Shop-

6.00 Tiny and Crew (79384280), 6.20 10

plus 2 (48652613). **6.40** Greedysaurus and the Geng (9839493). **6.45** Philbert the

(98381629). **7.00** Prectical Parenting (3160396). **7.05** Professor Bubble

(1235087), 7.30 Callou (6755561), 7.35

Bug Alert (7633483), 7.55 Practical Parent

Tiny Tales (3969342). 8.35 Thry and Crew

(4962290). **8.50** Practical Parenting (8306209). **9.00** Special Bables (8083648).

Law (2298483), 9.00 Films: The Substitute Wife (1994) (2195342), 11.00 The Sex Files

(33633006), **11.00** The Postman Always Rings Twice (1946) (58608261), **1.15** Opera-

tion Crossbow (1965) (91065588). 3.45 Demon Seed (1977) (13598120). 5.00 Close().

PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL

7.00 Jenny (6990). 7.30 Grace Under Fire

(6629). **8.00** Ellen (2938). **8.30** Spin City (1445). **9.00** Drop the Dead Donkey (75826). **9.30** Whose Line is it Anywey? (32025). **10.00** Fresier (95008). **10.30**

Cheers (44434). **11.00** Seinfeld (25321).

11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (58551).

12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (39762). 1.00 Taxi (83656), 1.30 Frontine

(20675), 2.00 Dr Katz (67863), 2.30 Tibs and Fibs (28879), 3.00 Nightstand (96120),

As Yorkshire except: 12.15 North East News and Weather (482474) 5.30 North East Tonight (37938) 11.20 North

As Channel 4 except: 7.00 The Big Breakfest (62034803), 8.30 Yn Fyw Or

Ysgolion/Schools (28947984), 12.00

Right to Reply (97988261), 12.30 Sesams Street (26613006), 1.00 Planed Plant (67587700), 1.30 Classic Cars (26812377), 2.00 Time Team (7419984) 3.50 What's In it for Me: Brookle Basics

3.50 What's in it for Me: Brookle Bastos (75879174). 4.30 Montel Williams (67981903). 5.00 Planed Plant (90983629). 5.30 Countdown (67915483). 6.00 Newyddfon (93231716). 6.10 Hen (86721919). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (90996193). 7.30 Newyddfon (67992532). 8.00 Dudley (90809613). 8.30 ABC Y Cynuflad (90991648). 9.00 Taro Naw (68915700). 9.30 Sgorio (65168367). 10.35 Film: The Englishman Who Went up a Hill but Carne down a Mountain (49232822). 12.20 Fam:

Oscars (97884445). 9.00

3.30-4.00 Abbott & Costello (57930)

9.00 MGM; When the Lion Roars

822), 8.25 Babaloos (1157261), 8.30

ing (9758445). **8.00** Barney and Friends

50 Polica Dot Shor

ping with Screenshop (8863304).

LIVING

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

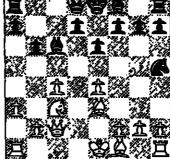
LAST TUESDAY when reporting on the tournament at Enghien-les-Bains I mentioned poor Viktor Bologan's defeat in just 10 moves at the hands of Joel Lautier. While this isn't a topic I would want to dwell on too often, readers may still be interested to see how a strong grandmaster can self-destruct so quickly.

Instead of the gross bhinder 8 ...Nbxd5??, 8 ...Nbxd5 was perfectly playable. At the end if 10 ... Nxd7 11 Nxd5; or 10 ...Qxd7 11 Bb5! axb5 12 Qxs8+ Qd8 13 Qxb7, etc.

White: Joel Lautier Rlack: Viktor Bologan Caro Kann Defence 6 Nf3 a6

2 e4 d5 7.d4 Nb6 3 පැල්5 පැල්5 . 8.Ne5 Nbxd5?? 9 Qa4+ Bd7 4 exd5 Nf6 5 Nc3 Nbd7 10 Nxd7 1-0

While painful defeats like this are extremely rare, they do occur sometimes to even the strongest players and could, from the emotional safety of the sidelines, even be taken as an affirmation of our human nature, as compared to those pesky machines.



11 ... Qb8 is theory in the diagram and perfectly playable. But after 11 ...Bd6?? 12 Qd1! Black loses a whole piece for nothing.

White: Larry Christiansen Black: Anatoly Karpov Queen's Indian Defence 8 Nxd4 Nc6 1 d4 Nf6

9 Nxc6 Bxc6 10 Bf4 Nb5 3 NH3 b6 4 a3 Ba6 11 Be3 (see diagram) Bd6?? 5 Qc2 Bb7 12 Qd1! 1-0 6 Nc3 c5 7 e4 cxd4

Despite this horring defeat in the first game of his mini-match with Larry Christiansen at the knockout tournament in Wijk aan Zee 1993. Anatoly Karpov displayed one of his greatest strengths - his ability to play purely for the moment. He won the second game of their match and the subsequent play-offs.

That was a mere 12 moves! But this is a marathon compared to the shortest master games on record. This was allegedly played at a café in Paris in 1924. In the Complete Chess Addict (Mike Fox and Richard James Faber) I further discovered the story that a waiter dropped a tray of plates after 4 Ne3!, which traps the queen since if 5 fxe3 Qh4+. But they add that the loser later denied the story and it's now generally believed to have been composed.

Gibaud vs Lazard Paris, 1924 3 dxe5 Ng4 1 d4 Nf6 2 Nd2 e5 4 h3?? Ne3! 0-1

This one is genuine, though - and even shorter:

White: D Djordevic Black: M Kovacevic Bela Crkva, 1984 Trompowsky 1 d4 Nf6 3 e3?? Qa5+ 2 Bg5 c6 0-1

Game all; dealer North

BRIDGE ALAN HIRON

COMPARISON TIME during a teamof-four match can be acutely embarrassing. Instead of attempting to justify your blunders to only one player, you have three critical teammates to contend with. This deal found South in the hot seat.

"We lost 690 points," started East. "I led a low spade against 3 notrumps. Sorry! And you?". "We lost 100 points" was the reply. How can you bid a slam missing two aces?" demanded West. "Don't you play Blackwood?" It was not like that at all - North had opened One Club. South responded One Heart, and North rebid 1 no-trumps (showing S). No problems so tar but instead of simply raising to 3 notrumps, South had followed a circuitous route that had eventually

landed him in Four Hearts. West led ♣2 against the heart game and, after winning in hand, declarer played off VAK on which West played high-low to show a third trump and an interest in rufftrump, he tried 🛊 J from dummy but East pounced with his ace. He was on the brink of returning the ex-

North ∳KJ ♥A K **QJ963 ♦**KQ1085 West East \$97432 **♦**A 1086 **♥J64** ♥103 -Q 7 5 4 **♦A82 49763** South **♦Q**5 ♥O98752 OK 10

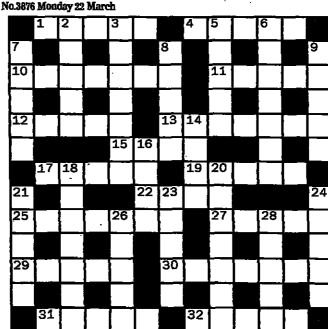
think. If his partner held OK it did not matter whether they took their club ruff now or after cashing two diamonds. But if his partner held only O arather than the king, then there would be only a ruff and one diamond to come.

So instead of a club East switched to a diamond, giving declarer a guess. He got it wrong (otherwise there'd have been no story) and now the defenders came to two diamond tricks, A, and a pected club when he stopped to club ruff to collect their 100 points.

10.00 The Jerry Springer Show (9291396). 10.50 Maury Povich (369074). 11.40 Brookside (23057396). 12.10 Through the Monday Night Football (49700). 10-00 Sky doors (27962358), **7,30** Fish TV (14719700). ing something. Short of a safe quick Sports Centre (238377), 10.15 You're on 8.00 International Bowls Australia vs Engentry to hand to draw the last Sky Sports (469938), 11.00 Football land (33636193). 10.00 Shell's Wonderful Keyhole (21392193). 12.40 Rescue 911 (37602626), 110 Beyond Belief, Fact of Fig.

9.30 The Rossanne Show (7953532). 32), 1.40 Maury Povich 4897667), 2.20 Special Bables (9043261). 3.00 Living Room (6162919). 3.50 Michael Cole (4452735), 4.40 Through the Keyhole (59794071), 5.10 The Heat is On (15566803), 5.40 Fleatly, Steatly, Cook (6944803), 6.45 The Jerry Springer Show (1605209), 7.05 Rescue 911 (4456735), 7.35 Animal Rescue (4734822), 8.00 LA

CONCISE CROSSWORD



DOWN

Smell (5)

Mock (5)

18 Fish (7)

20 Tree (4.3)

Deserve (5)

Greedy person (7) Muse of poetry (5)

Wintry weather (5)

16 Long period of time (4)

Side of boat (7)

14 Footwear item (4)

ACROSS The makings of bread (5) Marsh plant (5)

10 Shutdown (7) 11 Invalidate (5) 12 Primary (5) 13 Cut off (7) 15 Vow (4) 17 Snivel (5) 19 Young bird (5)

22 Conform (4) 25 Fox-like (7) 27 Gateaux (5) 29 First appearance (5) 30 Cranny (7) 31 Condescend (5) 32 Fossil resin (5)

21 Dodge (5) 23 Sandy shore (5)

24 Flower (5) 26 Jazz piece (5) 28 Table utensil (5) Solution to last Saturday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS; 5 Grimm, 8 Masseurs (Grimaces), 9 Study, 10 Monopoly, 11 Minor, 14 Rye, 16 Thrash, 17 Livery, 18 Oil, 20 Orate, 24 Sri Lanks, 25 Naked, 26 Space Age, 27 Lease. DOWN: 1 Imams, 2 Using, 3 Tempo, 4 Brolly, 6 Retrieve, 7 Mediocre, 12 Shortage, 13 Waitress, 14 Rho, 15 Ell, 19 Irrupt, 21 Slack, 22 Sneak, 23 Water.

PICK OF THE DAY

whether playing the heritage card has worked at this year's Oscars, Zoë Bali (6.30am R1) talks us through the Hollywood shebang live from LA, where a post-ceremony party is in full swing.

greatly impressed by a recording of Dylan Thomas's Under Milk

talks to lain Burnside.

phone Film Music Guide.

11.30 Jazz Notes

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)

11.30 King of Bath.

1.30 Counterpoint.

See Pick of the Day.

010 0444

1.00 The World at One.

2.00 NEWS: The Archers.

3.30 The New Recruit. (R)

2.15 Afternoon Play: Sunday

Morning at the Centre of the World.

3.00 NEWS; Money Box Live: 0870

3.45 This Sceptred Isle. (R)
4.00 NEWS; The Food Programme.

4 at The Word.

RADIO 4

10.45 Mixing It. Mark Russell and

Robert Mark Russell go in search of

esoteric soundtracks in the company

of Mark Walker, editor of the Gramo-

12.00 Composer of the Week:

Richard Strauss. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; Start the Week: Radio

9.45 Serial: Radio 4 at The Word. 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

11.00 NEWS; Turning into Children.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

4.30 Turning World. 9.15 Postscript. Five programmes in which Iwan Russell-Jones looks at attitudes to the body in our culture. 1: The Body Zone', At the heart of the Millennium Dome is a giant sculp-ture of the human body. What does this say about the role and impor-tance of the body in society? 9.40 Tchaikovsky. Three Pieces, Op 9. Viktoria Postnikova (piano). 10.00 Voices. "My Kind of Song -Sarah Walker". Mezzo Sarah Walker

Bread', it takes six years to become a Catholic priest. In the second of one of only five Roman Catholic

8.30 Analysis. The Economy on the Couch'. Like individuals, the econe-

7.30 Dream Teams. Jim White meets celebrities who live for football. This week, Hunter Davies, SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

A FISTFUL OF DOLLARS (10pm Sky Cinema) was the film that launched Clint Eastwood (right) - and his seminal Man With No. Name character - on to the world nt" season. Sergio Leone's who offers his services to both sides in a small-town feud. As (6pm Sky Premier). a tribute to the film's influence,

7.00 Count Duckula (50483), 7.30 The

both Leone's innovative camerawork and Ennio Morricone's wonderfully distinctive score have been widely copied. Not content with dominating

stage. Part of Sky's "Absolute sports coverage, Sky has been loudly trumpeting its coul classic spagnetti western is poaching the televising of the clearly based on the Kurosawa Oscars from the BBC. So if you film, Yojimbo. Eastwood plays couldn't make it through last a mysterious gunman for hire night, here's what you missed at The 71st Academy Awards

JAMES RAMPTON League Review (85193), 12,00 Sports Centre (8412859). 12.15 You're on Sky Sports

Chris Evans Breakfast Show (13754), 8.30 Hollywood Souares (23280), 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (33377), 10,00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (35174). **11.00** Guilty! (55938). **12.00** Jenny Jones (48087). **1.00** Mad about You (59754), 1.30 Jeopardy (51551), 2.00 Saily Jessy Raphael (13464), 3.00 Jenny Jones (53445), 4.00 Guity! 30). 5.00 Star Trek: Voyager (2919). 6.00 America's Dumbest Criminals (9551). 6.30 Friends (3713): 7.00 The Simpsons (3648), 7.30 The Simosons (6087), 8.00 First Wave (57498), 10.00 Seinfeld (35025). 10.30 Seinfeld (11445). 11.00 Friends (73209). 11.30 Star Trek: Voyager 51236). 12.30 The Commish (25694). 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (8457089).

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Max Power (75984), 8.00 Scottish Football Kilmannock vs Cellic (76613), 9.00 Racing News (43241), 9.30 Aerobics - Oz Style (10803). **10.00** The Snow Show (61025). 10.30 Worthington Cup Final Leicester vs Tottenham (92464, 12.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (96735), 12.30 What a Weekend (21919), 1.00 Ford Football Specal Aston Vita vs Chelsea (83396), 2.30 Spanish Football Espanyol vs Athletic Bilbao (91735), 4.30 Powerboat and Jet Sport World (7358), 5.00 Max Power (4919). **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (1551) **6.30** What a Weekend (2803), **7.00** Football League Review (32464), **8.00** Ford

(6940762). 1.00 Ford Monday Night Foot-ball (33149). 3.00 Football League Review (45255), 4.00 Sports Centre (81492491). 4.15 Close SKY SPORTS 2

7.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (2210223), 7.30 Racing News (4216808). 8.00 Ford Golf USA (500)245 M.OO Golf Vortacem Tour (9911416), 12-00 Scottlish Football Kilmarnock vs Celtic (1919551). 1.00 World Wide Rugby - Super 12s Tournament (2183735). 2.30 Moto-Plus (2314764). 3.00 Super League Classics St Helens vs Gateshead (9816280), 5.00 Football League Review (5876067), 6.00 Powerboat and Jet Sport World (1964223), 6.30 V-Max (8910303), 7.00 World Motor Sport (1857445), 10.30 V-Max (5215938), 1L00 Total Sport (3815700), 11.30 Powerboat and Jet Sport World (8676716). 12.00 in-

ternational Bowls Australia vs England (8115304). **2.00** Sky Sports Centre (78872656). **2.15** Close. SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 Budweiser Basketbell (94764483). 2.00 The Snow Show (27888342). 2.30 What a Weekend (14801735). 3.00 Ford Golf USA (47963716), 6,00 The Snow Show (14802484), 6,30 Total Sport (14893716), 7-90 Fish TV - Tony Dean Out-

World of Golf Kroll vs Ching-Po (33542700). 11.00 The Golden Age of Racing A-Z of Motorsport (92049342). 11.30 Close. EUROSPORT

7.30 Motocross (80648), 8.00 Speed Skating (74209), 9.00 Cross-Country Skiing (49025). 10.30 Cart (87532 12.00 Ski Jumping (51209), 1.30 Crose-Country Skling (33445), 2.30 Termis ATP Tour (31445), 4.00 Tennis (34532). 5.30 Sket Dog (6006). 6.00 Figure Skating (4594280). 9.30 Tennis ATP Tour (79071). 10.30 Football: Eurogos (48272), 11.30 Raily (52377), 12.00 Sled Dog (37743). 12.30 Close. UK GOLD

7.00 Crossroads (8405803), 7.30 Neighbours (8406071), 7.55 EastEnders (3311087), 4.30 Rhoda (1840193), 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (7336844), 6.00 Dynasty (1486483), 7.00 The Cornedy Al-

(1236700), 8.30 The Bill (3132919), 9.00 The Bill (3043071). 9.30 Pride and Preludice (59397A), 10.30 Rhoda (3145483). 1L00 Dallas (4969551). 11.55 Neighbours (75086984). 12.25 EastEnders (2801938). 1.00 Bugs (1473919), 2.00 Dallas (7629342), 2.55 The Bill (1631613), 3.25 The Bit (4800862), 3.55 EastEnders

ternative: Ever Decreasing Circles (7623990). 7.40 The Cornedy Alternative: Dads Army (4928613). 8.-20 The Cornedy

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Newsine 6.30 (551). 7.00 Schools Challenge (1648). 10.40 A Question of Sport (856464) 11.10 Animal Police (271990), 11.40 Harbour Lights (662483) 12.30 Film: The Cover Gri Murders (9597168) 1.55 Joins SBC News 24

BEC1 SCOTLAND As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 12.30 Luch is Famh (Mouse and Mole) (21190700). 12.35 Crain agus Rannan (Song and Rhyme) (21199071). 12.40 Padraig Post (Postman Par) (92108377). ws (241). **6.30** Reporting Scotnd Weather (551).

88C1 WALES As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6.30 Wales Today (551) 10.00 Labour of Love (86735). 10.30 Panorama (531754). 11.10 Animal Police (271990). 11.40 Harbour Lights (662483) 12.30 Film: The Cover Gr! Murders (62762) 2.00 Long BBC News 24 (3-18255).

ANGLIA As Cariton except: 12.20 Angles Shortland Street (9730087). 1.30 Home and Away (35443754). 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (2537218). 3.40 ITV News Headlines (4.195071), **3.15** Anglia News and Weather (4494342) 5.00 Home and Away (92)5716, 5.25 Take it Ch (4682268) 5.30 Anglia News Monday Extra (754), 6.00 Anglia News (667), 11.20 Anglia News (667), 11.20 Anglia News (667), (433803), 2.00 Film: Marooned 43660588), 4.15 Box Office America (41233217). 4.40 iTV Nightscreen (59044323). 5.00 Corona-

As Cariton except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (7999342), 12.55 Home and Away (4311396) 2.10 High Road (56222938), 5.30 Shortland Street (754). 6.00 Central News at Six (667). 11.20 Central News and Weather (433803). 4.10 Jobinder (6668217). 5.20 Asian Eve (3046526)

HTV WALES MTV WALLS As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morring (44336532), 12.15 HTV News (48240/4), 12.55 Shortland Street (9730087), 1.30 Home and Away (35443754), 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (253729), 3.10 ITV News Head-Ines (449507), 3.15 HTV News and Weather (4494342), 5.30 House to House (754), 6.00 HTV News (667), 11.20 HTV News (433803), 2.00 Fitte Mamphage (43567688), 4.15 Rev Office Marconed (43660588), 4.15 Box Office America (4)233217). 4.40 ITV Nightscreen (59044323). 5.00 Corona-

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 5.30 Garden Calendar (754). MERIDIAN

As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44336532), 12.15 Meridian News and Weather (482474), 12.55 Shortland Street (9730087), 1.30 Home and Away (35443754), 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (2557218), 3.10 ITV News Headines (4495071), 3.15 Meridian News and Weather (4494342) 5.00 Home and Away (9290), 5.26 Three Minutes (4682268), 5.30 A Weekend Work (754), 6,00 Mendian Tonight (667). 11.20 Meridian News and Weether (244782). 11.35 Prisoner Cell Block H

(43860588). **4.15** Box Office America (41233217). **4.40** ITV Nightscreen (59044323). **5.00** Freescreen (68236).

WESTCOUNTRY WESTCOUNTRY
As Cariton except: 10.30 This
Morning (44336532), 12.15 Westcountry
News and Westher (482474), 12.27 Illuminations (7070261), 12.55 Westcountry Innabors (70/125), 12-35 Vestcounty Lunchtime Live (4311396), 3.90 TTV News Headines (4495071), 3.15 West-country News (4494342), 5.30 Animal SOS (754), 6.00 Westcountry Live (567), 11.20 Westcountry News and toor), Thize viesecuting News and Weather (433803), 2.00 Film: Ma-rooned (43660588), 4.15 Box Office America (47233217), 4.40 (TV Nightscreen (59044323), 5.60 Corona-tion Street (68236).

YORKSHIRE As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (44336532). 12.15 Calendar News and Weather (482474). 12.55 News and Away (4311396), 2,10 Coronation Street (56222938), 5,20 Tonight (754), 6,00 Calendar (867), 11,20 Calendar News and Weather (433803), 4,15 lobitation (453804).

a Mountain (49232822), 12,20 Film; Pump Up the Volume (80814255), 2,15 Close, 4,00 Ysgolion (43780033).

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TELEVISION REVIEW

i 🔾

8.00 Kilroy (5) (T) (232855)]. 9.45 Wipsout (S) (334546), 10.10 The Vanessa Show (S) (T) (7217890). 10.55 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (3877377). 11.00 Change That (S) (3887754). 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (3784613). 11.65 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (778651). 12.00 Call My Bluff (S) (85006). 12.30 Top Tip Challenge (R) (S) (4318209). 1.00 News; Weather Show (S) (T) (53452209). 1.00 News; Weather (T) (1754). 1.30 Regional News and Weather (S201984). 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (35341342). 2.05 Ironside (R) (5635087). 2.55 Through the Keyhole (R) (S) (T) (6265862). thest Pet uts (S) (T)

6.00 News; Weather (T) (241).

101

6.30 Regional News (T) (551).

7.30 Watchdog Healthcheck. Alice Beer on how to get bables to sleep – Angela Rippon may be able to help out there: she's talking about magnets (S) (T) (735).

Z

Weather (T) (7867)

12.00 IIIII The Cover Girl Murders (James A Contnet 1983 US). Lee Majors stars as media mogul Rex 11.10 Harbour Lights (R) (S) (T) (776990).

first direct

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to the ends of the mutineers who requisitioned the Bounty still live on Pitcuirn Island, a terribly isolated lump of rock stuck in the middle of the South Pacific. These include From Christian, a man with a rather notorious grout, great, great grandfather. This film reveals the bloody and fascinating history of Pitcairu through the work of a team of Australian archaeologists. The nino mutineers brought about their own downfall, it emerges, with a colonial attitude to their Polynesian co-settiors – the Europeaus shared out both the women and the land, but eventually got their just deserts.

the wrong bank

HISTORY PROGRAMME OF THE DAY

...you're with

BBC

6.00 Hit, Miss or Maybe. Live and Kicking leftovers, with Zoë Ball and her celebrity guests (R) (S) (T) (385622).

6.15 The Simpsons. Barl joins the Junior Campers and gets lost with Homer and Ned Flanders during a trip (R) (S) (T) (929416).

7.30 Rough Guide to the World. The underground theatre scene and the awesome Nou Camp stadium, Las Rambias -- sounds like Barcelona (S) (T) (377).

8.30 Food and Drink. Gary Rhodes cooks a "dinner party spectacular" and Antony Worrall Thompson bakes a tangy lemon polenta cake (S) (T) (7445).

series (A) (T) (5209).

9.30 You Cannot Be Serious. Alexel Sayle introduces some war-related cornedy clips – Blackadder Goes Forth, It Ain't Hall Hot Mum. that sort of thing (S) (T) (932:18).

Newsnight. With Kirsty Wark (T) (818700).

BBC2

6.35 The Ren and Stimpy Show (R) (T) (785934).

7.00 Internal Affairs. Tonight's programme follows the Sea Fisheries inspectors as they travel through Brixth Britain's third-largest fishing port (S) (T) (2890).

8.00 Disaster. Looking at the 1885 crash in which a Bosing. 747 crashed into the side of a mountain outside Tokyo, killing 520 people. What went wrong? (S) (T) (8938).

9.00 Dad's Army. Gap in the schedule? Don't panic -screen the first-ever episode of an ancient comedy

10.00 If I Ruled the World. Satirical quiz show with guests Sue Perkins and Hugh Dennis (S) (T) (84377).

Carlton

Children's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (4588735). 3.30 Kipper (R) (S) (9548646). 3.40 The Adventures of Captain Pugwash (S) (9455984). 3.55 Oggy and the Cockroaches (S) (T) (5817087). 4.05 You'll Never Believe It (T) (6903006). 4.30 Polterguests (S) (T) (174).

••• Winnie is strangely unenthusiastic ing (S) (754).

Int. Regional news update for the South-East (T) (667).

ews; Weather (T) (919).

7.00 Wish You that have w re Here...? Looking at destinations wards for encouraging environmentally n. Judith Chaimers goes whale-watching Cape Town (S) (1) (6716).

7.30 Coronati treet. Rita makes a decision over the lin – hurray, perhaps she's going to (S) (∏ (803).

8.30 Cop Shop. Plod docu-soap. WPC Kris Allen's training in handling aggressive behaviour is put to the test when she is called to a rather Victorian sounding "street brawl" (1) (1071). 9.00 Kavanagh incursion into

9.00

EIRM The Englishman Who Went up a Hill but Came down a Mountain (Christopher Monger 1985 U.C). Hugh Grant does his diffident Englishman thing in this manual which a should be considered.

11.45 Smack the Pony (T) (545377).

Int (T) (433803). 11.30 Fitz (S) (T) Nationwide Football League Extra ord Football (R) (73912).

vs; Weather (T) (468984).

12.20 DIDINE Suddenly (Lewis Allen 1954 US). Drama about an attempted assassination of the President of the United States. Starring Frank Sinetra. See Film of the Day, below (8510615).

TITLE Marooned (John Sturges 1969 US). Space yern in which three astronauts are stranded. Sterring Gene Hackman and some flashy special effects (954t3491). **1.40 Dispatches** (T) (2640897). **2.15** Powerhouse (T) (16830). **2.45** Right to Reply (T) (8445120). **3.10** The Client (R) (S) (8236033). **4.00** Schools (T) (10236). To 6am.

Breakaways (49712897). **4.15** ITV Nightscreen (1521101). **5.30** ITV News (61762). To 6am.

209), 9.25 Tisha (S) (T) (8721938), 10.30 (T) (57389209), 12.20 Your Shout 2.30 ITV Lunchlime News; Weather (T) 2.55 London Today (T) (4311396), 1.25 The 3r Show (S) (T) (4978990), 2.10 Home and (56222938), 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (S) (T) (58529980).

5.00 Home and Aw ay (S) (T) (9280).

7.00 Channel 4 News. (200984).

 Highlights from the documentary on the M6 – no, really (T) (5464). 7.50 Farmed Out. A week of short films on farming, which starts with a sheepdog refuge in Lampeter (T) (902716).

8.00 (Si(0183) To the Ends of the Earth. Following the team of Australian archaeologists who travelled to Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific to discover what happened to Peticher Christian and the Bounty

ETIDINA Cutting Edge. Unintentionally Spinal Tapesque documentary following England's first official brass band during last summer's World Cup in France. See Documentary of the Day, below (T) (8613).

ייישיט יייטייט יייטיאט יייטיט יייטיט יייטיט יייטיט ייטיט ייטיט אווופקפֿיז attempt to bump Enjoyabis, in a slight sort of way, with Ian Fitzgerald filling out the cast (T) (345280).

ys. Well-written and unsentimental a series set in the summer of 1975. More between Amanda Holden's English teacher ley's brutish PE teacher as Mr Holder to run the school disco (S) (T) (80551).

Channel 4

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THE MONDAY REVIEW (
The Independent 22 March 1999

EXEMPT Phifft! (Mark Robson 1954 UK). So-so romantic comedy that is about as amusing as its silly title. Jack Lemmon and Judy Holliday play an attorney and his script-writing wife who get a quickle divorce when things aren't going smoothly. The title refers to the sound of a striking match, by the way (T) (75025803).

Collectors' Lot (T) (975). 4.00 Fifteen to One (S) (T) (532). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (3872754). 4.55 Montel Williams (T) (5980445).

3.30 IIII A Time to Triumph (Noel Black 1986 US).

An everydey tale of a woman who is forced to become a helicopter pilot after her breadwinner-husband has a heart attack. Bests working at the supermarket,

5.30 Pet Rescue. Highlights include a couple of shy ponies and Molly the puppy, who is reunited with her long-lost brother (T) (396).

6.00 Roseanne. Joan Collins makes a guest appearance as Ronnie, Roseannes rich and snooty cousin (R) (S) (T) (208).

6.00 5 News, including First on Five. National and international news with Kirsty Young (5) (T) (2083736)

5.30 100 Per Cent (S) (2086822).

5.20 5 News (S) (97141993).

6.30 Hollyoaks. Chester youth. The mini-market held by Lewis and Fin is ruined by a surprise visitor (T) (281).

6.30 Family Affairs. Where did Gabby spend the right? If you care one jot, this is the place to find out (S) (T) (8902209).

7.00 5 News (S) (T) (5442358).

7.05 TIME Baby's Day Out (John Hughes 1994 US).

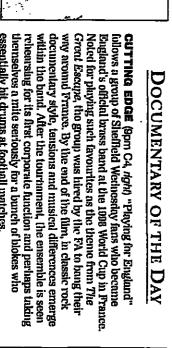
Home Alone-style comedy about a nine-month-old nipper on the loose in Chicago. It's familiar fare, without the wit or charm of director Hughes's original film – It clear antecedent. It focuses on three incompetent

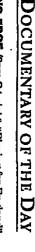
8.55 5 News (3129613).

9.00 IIIIM Breach of Faith: (David Green 1996 US/Can). A cifering this, a US/Cansolian T Bronson. The pensionable stamotions in this forgettable Mol

10.50 Dr Fox's Chart Update (S) (8912071). 10.55 V - Final Battle, Sci-fi drama series about deadly alien invaders disguised as humans (R) (S) (26969716)

TELEVISION GUIDE BY PETER CONCINE







FILM OF THE DAY

SUDDENLY (12.20am C4, right) Little-screened for years following the ussassination of John F Kennedy – Lee Harvey Oswald was a fan, so the tale goes – Lewis Allen's atmospheric film noir receives a welcome late-night airing. Frank Sinatra turns in a strong performance as a psychopathic hitman who leads a team that has been hired to fatally interrupt the President's fishing trip in the sleepy town of Suddenly. The action takes place in the hours before the hig cheese rolls into town, as Sinatra and his cohorts commandeer a house with a minar's eve view of the station. James Gleason and Nancy



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